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Raw provider
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Transcendence

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Thank you for your support!!

BEING A DRAGON, SHE'S REALLY SOMETHING,
ABLE TO FLY HERE IN ONE SHOT.
ばさ!
These people...
THE HEAVENS APPRECIATE YOUR ASSISTANCE, SHAKUYA-SAMA,
FLYING ACROSS THE NIGHT SKY, IT'S JUST AS I HOPED.
LOOKS LIKE YOU ARE COMPLETELY CONTROLLED BY THE FLUTE.
Are the snake charmers!

WELL SAID.
I'VE ALREADY SAID IT BEFORE,
WITH MY SKILLS AND TAKUTAKU'S FLUTE, THERE IS NO SNAKE THAT CAN'T BE CHARMED!
YOU USED THAT SNAKE FLUTE...
TO CONTROL ME?
I'M NOT A SNAKE, I'M A DRAGON!
NOT MUCH OF A DIFFERENCE...
WHAT'S IMPORTANT IS THAT YOU RESPONDED WELL TO THE MUSIC
TO WIN A DIFFERENT SPECIES!
EVEN THOUGH IT'S A SIMPLE TENT, PLEASE COME IN
WE HAVE THINGS TO TALK ABOUT.

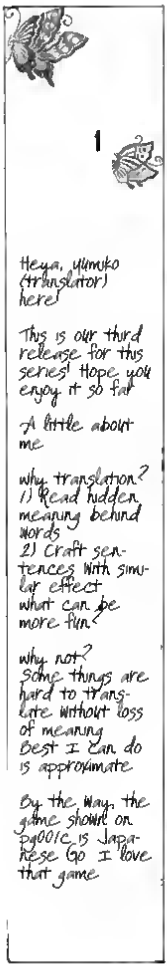
I REFUSE!
After transforming,
I'll leave them behind.
AIYA-YA-
Earlier I was very sleepy.
This time, my mind is very clear.
FELLA
WE WILL NOT LET YOU ESCAPE.

SHE'S SO FAR AWAY...
I CAN NO LONGER SEE HER SHADOW.
KUWAN, TAKE A LOOK...
THERE ARE TIGERS FOLLOWING BEHIND OUR HORSES.
DO YOU KNOW WHERE SHE IS?
ARE YOU TWO ALSO GOING AFTER SHAKUYA?
COME,
INTO THE TENT.
YOU SHOULD RECOGNISE YOUR CURRENT POSITION.
WE ARE THE ONES GIVING ORDERS NOW!
Transcendence

IF IT WAS THIS DIRECTION, THERE ARE A FEW WITHERED TREES OVER THERE.
IT'S A VERY SUITABLE PLACE TO KEEP HORSES AT THE READY.
NOT ONLY DO THEY LOOK WEIRD, BUT THEY CAN'T EVEN ACT.
A DRAGON IS VERY CONSPICUOUS.
CERTAINLY, WE CAN ASSUME THAT SHE'S NOW IN HUMAN FORM.
We just caught up.
No idea
IF YOU DEMONSTRATE WE MAY UNDERSTAND.
Shakuya heard the music and flew up
THAT MAKES SENSE
LET'S GO NOW, RUSHIN.
I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO ASK YOU,
WHAT IS SHAKUYA TO YOU?

IN YOUR HEART,
DO YOU HAVE ANY FEELING...
SIMILAR TO LOVE?
...IN MY OPINION, NOW, SHAKUYA-SAMA DOESN'T EVEN FEEL THAT WAY ABOUT YOU.
No need to tell me!
MY BUSINESS IS NOT YOURS.
SHE...
ISN'T MY IDEAL IMAGE OF A PARTNER,
SHE IS TOO YOUNG.
BUT SHE IS STILL A CUTE PERSON.
IT'S LIKE I'VE BEEN TRANSFIXED

IN SHORT...
I CAN'T STAND HER BEING KIDNAPPED BY OTHER MEN,
OR THOSE WHO RISE FROM THE DEAD.
The Zombie
'CEPT THE LAST PART,
I FEEL THE SAME
PLEASE SIGN HERE
HUH?
THIS IS A MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE.



1

Heya, yumiko (translator) here!

This is our third release for this series! Hope you enjoy it so far!

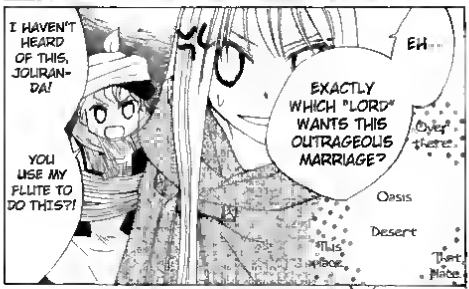
A little about me

Why translation?
1) Read hidden meaning behind words
2) Craft sentences with similar effect what can be more fun?

Why not?
Some things are hard to translate without loss of meaning. Best I can do is approximate.

By the way, the game shown on page 1 is Japanese. So I love that game.

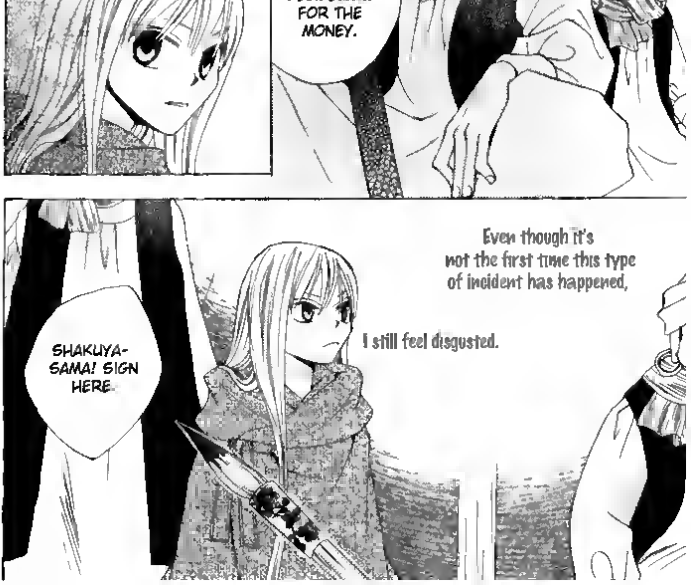
BECAUSE THE OASIS IS AN IMPORTANT TRADE HUB,
OUR LORD WANTS TO BENEFIT FROM THAT.
OUR FEUDAL LORD WANTS TO MAKE YOU HIS BRIDE.



YOU EVEN KILLED THE SNAKE, WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO NOW?!
SO THEY ALL ARE THE FEUDAL LORD'S MEN... IDIOT,
QUIET, TAKUTAKU!
THE LORD'S PLAN REQUIRES OUR HELP.
THIS IS A JOB THAT ONLY WE CAN DO.

YOU'RE NOISY!
THEN, THIS WOULDN'T HAVE HAPPENED...
IF I REALIZED THIS EARLIER
THE REASON WHY THE SNAKE ACTED WEIRD,
COULD BE BECAUSE IT HAD A PREMONITION.

EVEN IF YOU HAD KNOWN, IT WOULDN'T MATTER
THIS IS SOMETHING YOUR MASTER DECIDED.... FOR THE MONEY.
TAKU-TAKU!

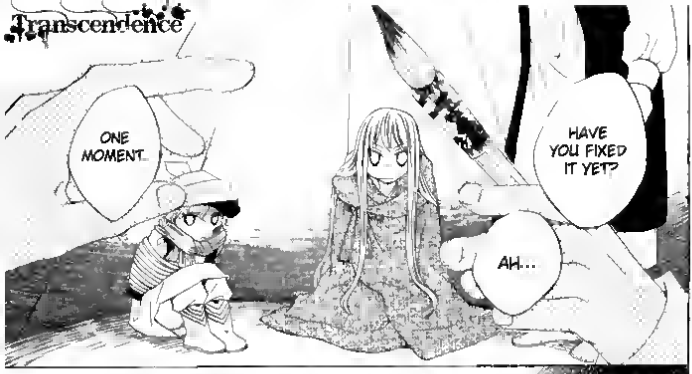

SHAKUYA-SAMA! SIGN HERE.
Even though it's not the first time this type of incident has happened,
I still feel disgusted.

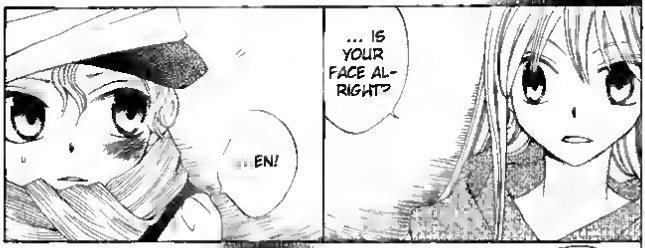
I HEARD YOU ONCE FRACTURED YOUR FIANCE'S LEG.
LEG...
SINCE YOU HAVE NO MORALS, YOU WOULDN'T FEEL THIS MARRIAGE IS ANYTHING WRONG!
JOUR-ANDA!
SURE...
This feeling of disgust,
SHE'S RESISTING PLAY WITH MORE VIGOR!
Since you've no morals... it's nothing wrong?
That feeling that makes you really irritated...
THE LIVES OF...
OTHER PEOPLE...

YOU DON'T JUST...
STEP INTO THEM AS YOU LIKE!
はキラ
Ahah...
If that flute didn't exist...
PLAY!
ベしゃ!!
OW!

GIVE IT TO ME! I'LL FIX IT.
THE PEN CAN'T BE USED ANYMORE.
If my hopes could come true, I really wish to pack them up...
I won't give up.
IN MY COUNTRY, THIS IS IRREDUTABLE PROOF OF A CONTRACT.
WHY NOT HAVE HER SIGN WITH HER FINGER-PRINT?
...AH!
I'm being manipulated...
...by a stranger's greed!
AT LEAST...

As if what they pointed out,
VS
Was really a love triangle!
That was really impolite!
That is a touchy subject!
YOU COULD HAVE CHOSEN EITHER FIANCE, AND THAT WOULD DO!
WHY DO YOU EVEN BOTHER WITH A LOVE TRIANGLE?
IT'S JUST AN ARRANGED MARRIAGE
OH, I'M SORRY, I'M BEING IMPOLITE
Yeah...
YOU COULD SAY THAT

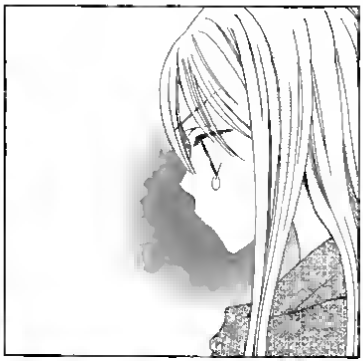

ONE MOMENT.
HAVE YOU FIXED IT YET?
AH...


... IS YOUR FACE ALRIGHT?
...EN!

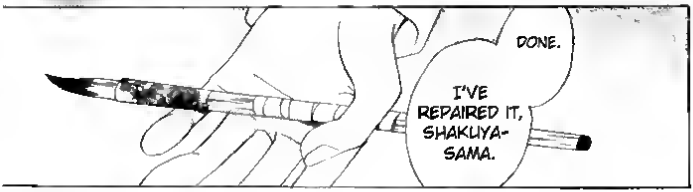
SORRY THAT THINGS TURNED OUT THIS WAY.
JOURANDA WANTS MONEY,
MOSTLY BECAUSE OF ME
HE PLANS TO PAY FOR MY SCHOOL FEES BECAUSE HE'S LIKE A FATHER TO ME
SO IT'S BECAUSE OF THAT-
I... DON'T MIND ATTENDING OR NOT ATTENDING SCHOOL.
OUR LIVES NOW...
ARE MORE IMPORTANT.

Why would they be together?
It's just an arranged array.
While leaving the Oasis, I caught a glimpse of this image.
Aren't those Kuwan and Rushin?
IT'S THE SAME FOR SHAKUYA-SAMA, RIGHT?
EN!
He's crying...
I don't feel any water around here.
Tears are welling up in my eyes.
How should I make an escape?

AH!
WHAT HAPPENED?
Tears comprise of water!
WHAT'S THE MATTER?



Are made up of water.
Living bodies...


DONE.
I'VE REPAIRED IT, SHAKUYA-SAMA.

I need to pull myself together.
THIS TIME, YOU MUST
SIGN THE CONTRACT.

I won't call their names here.
Then using dragon power to end it is appropriate.
TAKU-TAKU...
I can't be like a kid...
And just cry.
I SEE IT!
TENTS!
I WILL HELP RETURN YOUR MASTER TO YOU.
Because I'm not willing for these impolite ears to hear.
If this event occured because of dragon power,

Hira
YES, YES, JUST LIKE THAT.
YOU SHOULD HAVE DECIDED TO SIGN FROM THE START.
THEN, SHE'S GIVEN UP ALREADY?
SHE'S EVEN CRYING
NO, I...
MY LAST SONG WAS THE SAME AS THE FIRST.
JOURANDA, SEE, YOU HAVE AMAZING ABILITIES!
HOW ARE YOU FEELING NOW?
OF COURSE SHE IS SAD, BEING FORCED TO SIGN THIS KIND OF MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE.
WE SHOULD IMMEDIATELY LEAVE HERE
THE LORD SHOULD NOT BE KEPT WAITING ANY LONGER
LOOK, TEARS!
BECAUSE OF THAT

SHE'S NOT STOPPING.
WHEN I FEEL LIKE CRYING...
I'LL CRY ENDLESSLY.
UNTIL THE FLUTE CAN'T PLAY ANOTHER NOTE.

SHE'S BENDING THE WATER!
QUICK! STOP HER!
IT'S FILLED WITH WATER...
Just needed a bit more.
HAVE HER TRANS-FORM INTO A DRAGON NOW!
THEY'VE COME FOR HER!
THERE ARE HORSES HEADING TOWARDS US!
HNG... SHUT UP!
YOU KNOW IT ISN'T RIGHT FOR YOU TO DO THIS!
JOURANDA! STOP DOING THIS!

I've reached my limit.
But...
Just a little bit more...
VERY GOOD, SHE'S TRANS-FORMING.
JOURANDA!
EVERYBODY, LET'S GET ON.
YOU...

AH!
TAKU-
TAKU!

Kuwan!
AAH!
SHAKUYA IS MY FIANCE!
I... THAT'S ..
MARR-IAGE CERTI-FICATE?

Taku Taku was caught by Rushin...
Rushin is also here.
...YOU HAVE BEEN CRYING?
Ah!
IT WAS ..
SHE IS MY
FIANCE
THEN...
A SKILLED SWORDS-MAN...
THE CONSEQUENCES OF LAYING A HAND ON HER
I NEED TO MAKE CLEAR TO YOU,

I can't ...see!
Bleed
PAKU
ヒュ
JOU-RAN-DA!
TAKU...
HA...

KUWAN, DON'T KNIFE THOSE TWO.
THEY SHOULD BE LET GO.
I won't budge.
Ya...
Ugh!
THEY NO LONGER POSE A THREAT.
SHAKUYA-SAMA.
WHAT ABOUT—
Can't see
...CUTTING DOWN THOSE THREE OVER THERE?
—BLOOD.

SUCK IT ALL OUT,
AND TURN THEM INTO LIFELESS TREES.
...
HI...
AH!
FOR A DRAGON, IT COULD BE POSSIBLE!

ALSO, LEAVE US A HORSE,
LET THESE TWO RIDE IT.
!
GO BACK AND TELL THE LORD,
IT'S ONE-HUNDRED YEARS TOO EARLY TO THINK ABOUT MARRYING ME!
THEN... I'LL LET YOU,
GO ANYWHERE YOU WISH.
ARE WE TOO INNOCENT?

EVEN THOUGH I SAID IT WAS 100 YEARS TOO EARLY,
WOW... YOU'RE REALLY FIERCE.
IF YOU TWO WEREN'T AROUND, WHO KNOWS WHAT MIGHT HAVE HAPPENED...
THANK YOU FOR FOLLOWING ME,
KUWAN, AND ALSO RUSHIN.
TROUBLE...
YOU DON'T NEED A LIFETIME TO GET
EVEN WHEN THEY CAN'T HELP WITH ANYTHING ..
YA, THE TIGERS ALSO CAME.
Rushin is so warm!

Chapter 5//End

●草川為の本

――花とゆめコミックス――

ガートルードのレシピ　全5巻

めぐる架空事

十二穂色のパレット　①～②

龍の花わずらい　①～②

Ryuu no Hanawazari

Volume 2

KUSAKAWA Nari

花とゆめCOMICS

龍の花わずらい

草川 為（くさかわ なり） 2

花とゆめ COMICS

龍の花わずらい〔2〕

草川 為

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花とゆめCOMICS

▶収録作品◀

龍の一族・次期当主のシャクヤには婚約者が2人。行方不明だったルシンと警察局の役人クワン。シャクヤの恋心に呼応して増える刺青の花の多い方を嫁とする事に！　そんな中シャクヤを狙う一味が現われ—!?　他、「歯車使い」収録。

■LaLa掲載■

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By the Way, the preview for chapter 5 was used as recycled paper, that's Why there wasn't one ♥

Because this manga's story is related to roses and gentian, that's Why the clothes and objects used flowers as the theme, and I would do try my best to tweak it so that it doesn't look like something from any culture. Rose screentones are all very cute, so it's a shame I couldn't use them. For some reason I can never find Gentain screentones

♥(Translator's Note: I swear that's what it says. I thought it meant for a sec, "was re-used on the cover" then I did a double-take o.O)

龍の花わずらい
第6話

we arrived back at the palace at about dawn,
where they were receiving praise,
After being rescued from those snake charmers...
AFTER THIS INCIDENT, I ALSO HAVE TO REVIEW MY PROTECTIONS
IF YOU TWO HADN'T IMMEDIATELY HEAD OUT TO THE DESERT, WHO KNOWS WHAT MIGHT HAD HAPPENED...
THANK YOU, RUSHIN, KUWAN
while I...
became a kid who likes to hide in dark places.
SHAKUYA, HAVE YOU THANKED THEM YET?
because of embarrassment...
YES! I'VE ALREADY THANKED THEM, MOTHER-SAMA!
ピクッ

Ah..
After the fact that roses grew came to light...
I don't know what emotion I should show other people!
OKAY
SHAKUYA, QUIT HIDING THERE ALREADY, BE MORE CONFIDENT.
THOSE TWO DECIDED TO REST FOR A WHILE IN THE PALACE BEFORE RETURNING
I thought of denying it but...
Only the words "two-timing" in my mind,
similar things
two-timing
indecisive
Echoing, ceaselessly.
The joy I got from seeing Kuwan disappeared in that moment,
I basically became a rock.
On the way home I kept my head up

If I give an explanation like this, it's obvious I'm lying!
But...
My feelings for Kuwan can't have weakened.
PUTS ON
Am I too caring?
A child, more
that isn't the truth.
But if I were to say I don't mind Rushin,

Ah!
Kacha!
SHAKUYA-SAMA, YOU'VE FINISHED DRES----

A suspicious figure?

HNGHNG... NOTHING
I WANTED TO WEAR MY GLOVES IN MORE PRIVACY, SO IT TURNED OUT TO BE LIKE THIS!
SORRY, SORRY!
PRI-VACY?

How embarrassing.....
My feelings have been revealed.

HA
THE ROSES HAVE INCREASED?
PLEASE DON'T LOOK DOWN ON A MAID'S INTUITION, FROM THE WAY YOU ACT, I CAN ASSUME THAT I'M CORRECT?
Yaaa
Rupina's scary
RUSHIN-SAMA AND KUWAN-SAMA HAVE ALREADY MOVED TO THE GUEST ROOM,
WHY DON'T YOU GO THERE AND GREET THEM!
YAYA?
THEY SPENT AN ENTIRE NIGHT JUST TO SAVE YOU, YOU SHOULDN'T IGNORE THEM FOREVER.
THIS IS ALSO TO LET THEM HAVE A GOOD REST, WITHOUT ANY WORRIES.
IF YOU..
SAY IT LIKE..
THAT, STILL..
IF I WERE YOU I WOULD ALSO BE EMBARRASSED, ON THAT POINT RUPINA UNDER-STANDS.
DRAGGED
IT GIVES ONE A FEELING THAT SOMETHING INTERESTING IS FINALLY HAPPENING!
MASTER'S INTERNAL CONFLICT... ALSO WITH THE GENTLEMEN SHOWING NEW EXPRESSIONS

AIYA, THAT'S BAD DOES KUWAN-SAMA HAVE A FEVER?
...EXCUSE ME.
NO, IT'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT.
Achoo!
I'M FINE, BECAUSE I GOT SUFFICIENT WARMTH
IF ONE SHOWS KINDNESS, ONE WILL REAP THE BENEFITS, KUWAN
BEING LIKED BY THE TIGERS ISN'T MUCH TO BOAST ABOUT...
Kuwan has a cold..
COULD BE BECAUSE YOU WEREN'T WARM ENOUGH LAST NIGHT. WHAT ABOUT RUISHIN-SAMA?

SINCE I'VE REALIZED IT, MY BODY IS BECOMING HEAVIER AND HEAVIER.
THAT'S RIGHT, BUT..
ARE YOU WILLING TO TAKE CARE OF ME,
SHAKUYA-SAMA?
EH?
I think!
I think, but I..
SHE RAN AWAY.

2

Good day minna-san! Katzumi here Katz/Kat for short

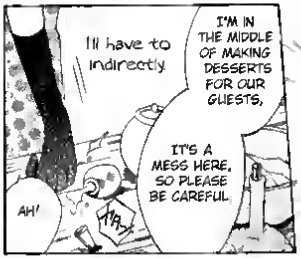
I'm the one proofreading for this series ♥yay♥

I've decided to be a proofreader so that I can put my English grammar knowledge into practice!

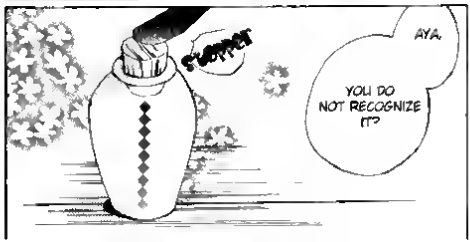
I hope you guys will continue to support us!

Enjoy your day!

I just cannot...

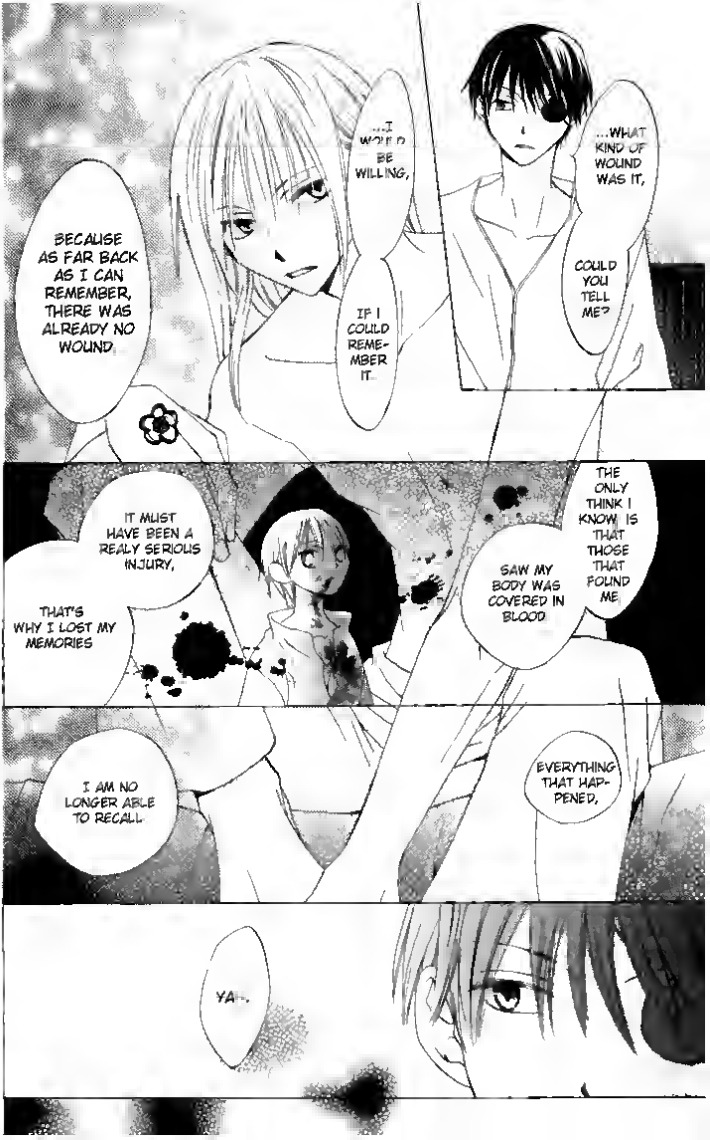


directly take care of him, it's too difficult.



AH, WHILE YOU'RE COOKING PORRIDGE, I SHOULD GO TO THE MEDICINAL CABINETS TO GET MEDICINE
HNG...
I'LL BE GOING, HEAD CHEF.
WHY IS THIS A SHARED ROOM... PLUS SHAKUYA RAN AWAY AGAIN.
I HEARD THE OTHER GUEST ROOMS ARE OCCUPIED
Why don't you go and sleep along the corridor Rushin?
IT'S BECAUSE SHAKUYA-SAMA KNOWS WE SAW THE TATTOO, SHE MUST BE FEELING EMBARRASSED!
BECAUSE OF MY ILLNESS
I FEEL SHE'L RETURN
SHE DEFINITELY WON'T LEAVE

GOOD, YOU HAVE SELF-CONFI-DENCE!
Just continue fooling yourself
Hm
What's up?
...
Stare
I THOUGHT THAT IT WOULD HAVE LEFT BEHIND A HUGE — SCAR.
THAT INCIDENT TOOK AWAY YOUR MEMORIES.


...WHAT KIND OF WOUND WAS IT,
COULD YOU TELL ME?
...I WOULD BE WILLING,
IF I COULD REMEMBER IT.
BECAUSE AS FAR BACK AS I CAN REMEMBER, THERE WAS ALREADY NO WOUND.
THE ONLY THING I KNOW IS THAT THOSE THAT FOUND ME
SAW MY BODY WAS COVERED IN BLOOD
IT MUST HAVE BEEN A REALY SERIOUS INJURY,
THAT'S WHY I LOST MY MEMORIES
EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENED,
I AM NO LONGER ABLE TO RECALL
YA...

I CAN'T REMEMBER ANYTHING..
TRUTHFULLY, THE ONLY REASON I MANGAED TO RETURN,
WAS BECAUSE OF THIS TATTOO AND SHAKUYA'S LETER.
YOU WERE DOING SOMETHING REALLY UNNECES-SARY!
YOU SHOULD HAVE JUST HAPPILY LIVED A SECOND LIFE,
BEYOND THE OASIS YOU COULD HAVE HAD MORE FREE-DOM!
AS FOR THAT-
HOW SHOULD I SAY IT?
WITH NO MEMORIES I'D STILL NOT BE FREE!
YOU MEAN YOU WANT TO REMEM-BER THE PAST?

YES...
I DO WANT TO.
...

The morning is ready
STOP!
たたたたた
YA--- I'VE BEEN SPOTTED!

I SMELL MEAT.
WHO?
Phew..
I was nearly discovered because of the Tigers...
But, now that I think about it,
how could I receive their welcome like this?
Just now they were so close to Kushim, ya!

I've been spotted!
NEVER-MIND ME,
RUSHIN...
Yes?
I SEE YOU'VE DECIDED NOT TO RUN AWAY AGAIN
DON'T BE FOOLED. I'M STILL A YOUNG VIRGIN!
I WISH YOU WOULD AT LEAST WEAR SOME CLOTHES!
YOU! YOURSELF ALSO FREQUENTLY SHOW YOUR BODY!
SHAKUYA, DON'T RUN AWAY!
WAIT---

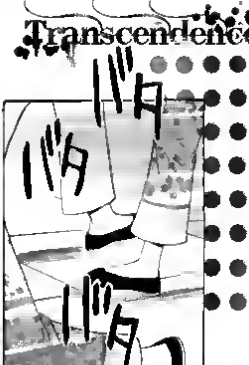
WAIT!
Heavy!
WHAT!
WHY?
XOXO
XOXO
?
WOW... THE TIGERS TOO
I SHOULD HAVE EXPECTED THEM TO UNDERSTAND.
SHAKUYA HAS A SORT OF
SWEET,
NICE-SMELLING SCENT
どんっ

but guilt and shyness
pulled me outside.
Even though I know that running away is useless,
Pushed over
KUNKA KUNKA
I DON'T SMELL LIKE THAT!
Don't run away!
...
HOW WEIRD.
YEAH.

I DON'T THINK SHE NOTICED.
DID SHE?
コクン
AS-IS
LEAVE THEM
I WANTED TO ASK HER,
BUT SINCE SHE'S AVOIDING US.
IT'S BECAUSE YOU BIT HER, YOU WILD BEAST!
WHAT ABOUT YOUR OWN IMPROPER USE OF LANGUAGE?
ARA?
WHAT MAY TWO FINE GENTLEMEN BE DOING HERE?

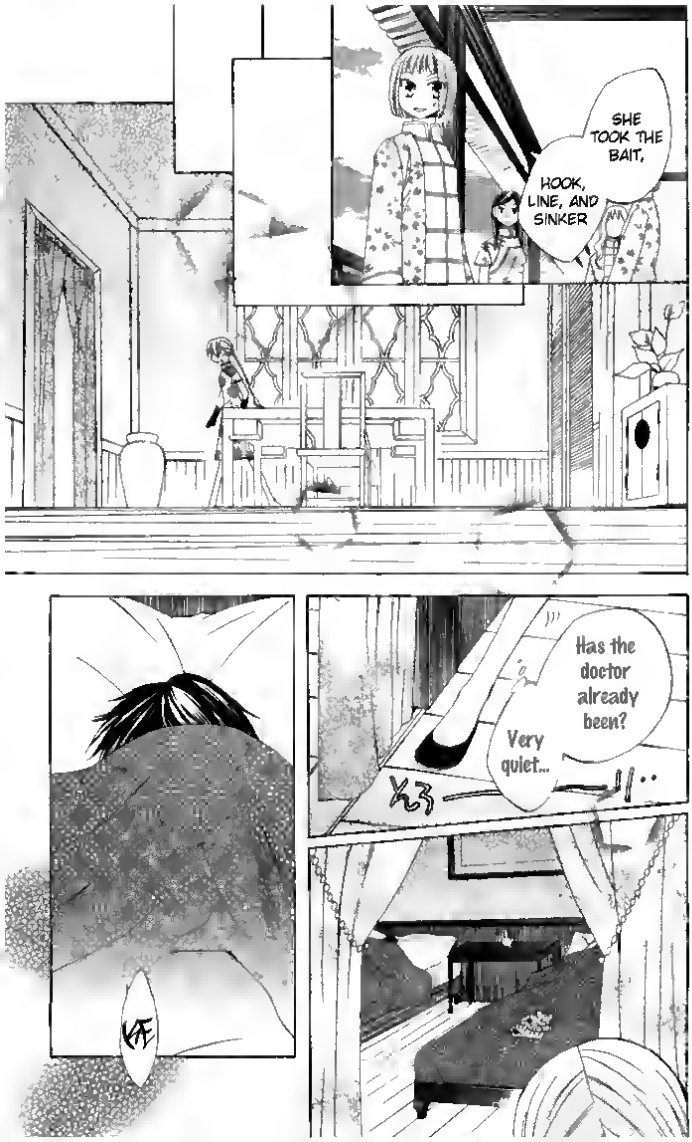
I HEARD HIS TEMPERATURE HAS GOTTEN EVEN HIGHER.
HIS CONDITION DOESN'T LOOK HOPEFUL.

EH?
HOW IS KUWAN-SAMA?



I'm here being depressed while the maids are hurriedly running about...
Now is not the time for me to be making mashed apples.
How could this...
HIS FEVER IS REALLY SCARY!
I'M VERY WORRIED.

I'll secretly go and have a look!
SHAKUYA-SAMA!
Ah... looks so pitiful...
secretly...


SHE TOOK THE BAIT,
HOOK, LINE, AND SINKER
Has the doctor already been?
Very quiet...
KF

He's already coughing!
Hang in there-!
He *is* coughing, right? Hey, Rushin!
Since you're near him, you should be taking care of him!
Kt
Kt
Kt
Ah, But...
Rushin must also be tired.
Temp-erature..

Aya...
Gloves don't help my sense of touch!
If I want to touch Kuwan, I should use the hand with the Gentian.
What to do, use my left hand?
No, wait...
I can't use my right hand, the roses are there...
IF YOU WANT TO CHECK MY TEMPERATURE...

USE THIS METHOD.
Doing it again—
SO YOU DO HAVE A FEVER.
YOU'RE EVEN HOTTER THAN ME.

You need to rest!
WHY...
YA?
BUT, KUWAN'S FOREHEAD FELT QUITE COOL...
And he gave me a fright
WHY DID YOU GET UP?
DON'T YOU HAVE A HIGH FEVER?

WE DID THIS TO GET SHAKUYA-SAMA HERE.
EHH...
SORRY FOR MAKING YOU WORRY.
thing!
I didn't worry
ME HAVING A HIGH TEMPE-RATURE,
WAS A RUMOUR SPREAD BY RUPINA

THE ONE WHO IS ILL IS SHAKUYA
YOU TIPPED OVER THIS BOTTLE WHILE IN THE KITCHEN?
I heard it from the head chef
THIS IS VANILLA EXTRACT.
EVEN IF YOU DON'T BELIEVE IT, YOU REALLY DO HAVE A SWEET SMELL
YOU ARE UNWELL AND HAVE A FEVER.
THAT EXPLAINS YOUR BLOCKED NOSE
VANILLA?
BUT, I AM COMPLETELY .
HOW SWEET
HOW SWEET

Scissor's
Paper!
Rock!
Damn!!!
YOU'RE WEARING THE LEAST CLOTHING,
YOU'RE THE FATIGUED ONE
ぽん
ぴょい
SHAKUYA
...
YOU WERE ALWAYS NEARBY BUT THERE WAS NO WAY TO TALK TO YOU,
IF YOU FELL SICK, I WOULD BE UPSET.

DON'T RUN AND HIDE ANYMORE.
I'M SORRY...
When I became self-conscious I suddenly felt very tired..
Fell back~
UNDER-STAND?
The warm hands of two people..
caused my earlier emotions...

Is that okay?

HOLD MY HANDS, PLEASE.

I WOULD BE WILLING.

I'm exhausted, no longer energetic.

Drunken in the flowers, these are days of Hanawazurai.

Chapter 6//End

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第7話
龍の花わずらい

Chapter 1 Preview

Forgot the Gloves

SOIYA-----!
Shakuya 15 Years Old
Trapped between engagements to two people...
It's a hassle for the successor to the head of the dragon race
When my feelings changed, I was scared, so I tried running away from them,
but now I have decided to change my mind

Tiger Excercise

Because I've realized then when I'm on cloud nine or when I'm downcast, I will overlook the important things
Regardless of Kuwan or Rushin.
I need to have a sincere composure!
Therefore...
I'll try to understand Rushin better...
At 0135 AM I plays with the tigers
I can't do this...
Secretly collecting information about him, wasn't I doing the same before?
I should make up my mind and face him head-on.
Ooh!
GOOD MORNING.
TOO CLOSE!!

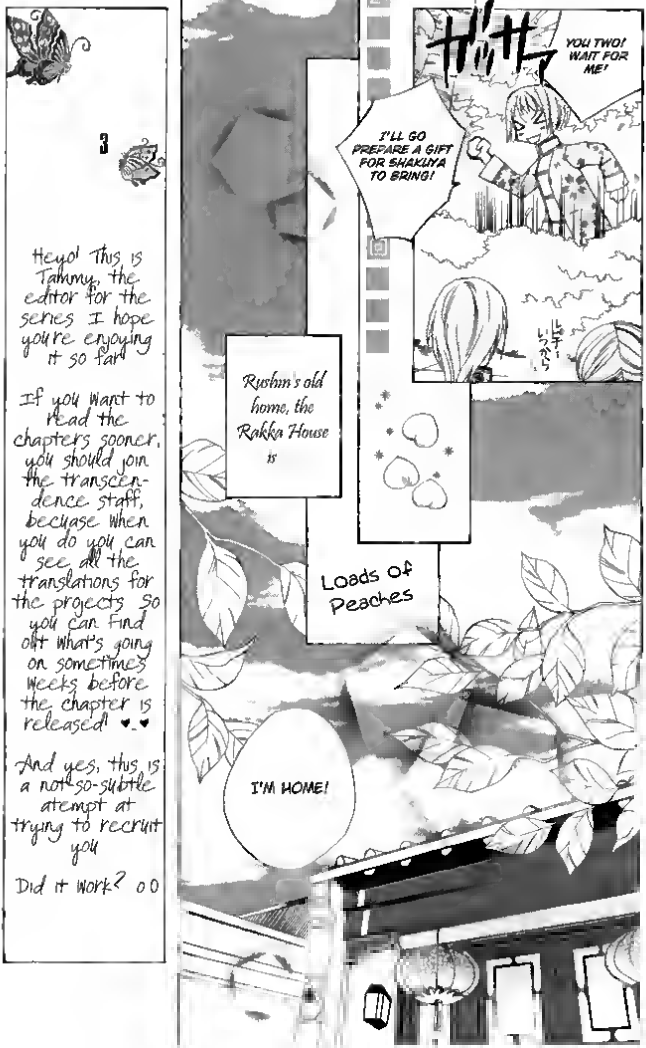
Mornin
IT'S RARE FOR SHAKUYA TO INITIATE A CONVERSATION
I'VE ALWAYS THOUGHT EVEN IF I COME TO THE PALACE THERE'D ONLY BE THE TIGERS TO WELCOME ME...
WELL I HAVE A QUESTION...
Well then
What's the question?
RUSHIN
THOUGH YOU FREQUENTLY COME HERE
BUT WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN YOU'RE AT HOME?
SHUT UP!
BECAUSE I'VE ONLY RETURNED HOME AFTER SO LONG I'M NOW IN A GRACE PERIOD
THOSE PEOPLE WHO SAY THEY'RE "ON SUSPENSION" TYPICALLY ONLY KNOW HOW TO HAVE TATTOOS...
Just w
Kuwor
YOU WANT TO KNOW? THE LIFE OF A TEENAGER WHO FOOLS AROUND?
HOME... AH!
THEN SHAKUYA,
YOU WANT TO VISIT SOMETIME?

I'LL GO HAVE A LOOK

Rival Talk
It's best for you to ask again.
She could have misheard that as my house.
I can certainly say you are someone with a lot of self-confidence!
SERIOUSLY?

KUWAN,
JUST TO TAKE A LOOK AROUND
I'M GOING

MY HOUSE?
EH


3
Heyo! This is Tammy, the editor for the series. I hope you're enjoying it so far!
If you want to read the chapters sooner, you should join the transcendence staff, because when you do you can see all the translations for the projects so you can find out what's going on sometimes weeks before the chapter is released! ♥.♥
And yes, this is a not-so-subtle attempt at trying to recruit you
Did it work? o.o
Ryuhm's old home, the Rakka House is
Loads of Peaches
I'M HOME!
I'LL GO PREPARE A GIFT FOR SHAKUYA TO BRING!
YOU TWO! WAIT FOR ME!

SORRY, MOTHER-SAMA
YOU HAVEN'T COME HOME IN 5 YEARS ALREADY!
YOU FINALLY CAME HOME. YOU SHOULD STAY HERE
RUSHIN!
YOU WENT OUT AGAIN?
The Oasis is the first of its kind of inn
They treat their guests like VIPs
WE HAVEN'T MET IN A WHILE
SHAKUYA
ARA, THIS IS...
WE ARE TRULY VERY SORRY ABOUT THAT!
90°
no!
I'M NOT IN ANY PAIN
BUT AS FOR RUSHIN, HIS RIBS THAT YOU FRACTURED STILL CAUSE HIM PAIN
YOU YOURSELF LOOK WELL,
SHA-KU-YA-SAMA,

T/N A 90 DEGREE BOW IS USUALLY ONLY FOR A SERIOUS APOLOGY AND SHOWS UTMOST RESPECT

MOTHER-SAMA, PLEASE DO NOT PRETEND TO CRY
ALSO PLEASE STOP RUBBING YOUR FACE
BECAUSE... IT'S ONLY BEEN A WHILE SINCE I LAST SAW YOU AND YOU'RE ALREADY SO INDEPENDENT
I'LL GO BUSY MYSELF THEN...
I'LL LEAVE YOU TO IT
NOT ONLY MAIDS, EVEN HIS MOTHER...
IN THE DESERT, WHAT KIND OF LIFE DID YOU HAVE?
YOU ONCE TOLD ME THAT YOU HAD TO RECOVER, DID YOU ALSO LEARN SWORDSMANSHIP THEN?
OR DID SOMEONE TAKE CARE OF YOU OR SOMETHING...
WHAT, YOU'VE BECOME INTERESTED IN MY PAST?
IT'S ONLY FOR MY OWN MEANINGLESS RESEARCH...
THAT'S AN IMPROVEMENT
SENSEI WAS A DANCER

THE SWORDSMAN SENSEI
WHUH... SENSEI?

AH
SHE HAD BRAIDS?
SENSEI HAD BEEN TOURING ALL OVER THE DESERT
SHE PICKED ME UP WHEN I COLLAPSED
SHE WAS ONE WHO EXCELLED AT SWORD-PLAY
THAT'S RIGHT
I HELPED HER BRAID THEM, I WAS HER ASSISTANT
SO THAT'S WHAT IT WAS

ALSO THIS THING REALLY BRINGS BACK MEMORIES.
?
SHE DIDN'T HAVE A VOICE SHE WAS A MUTE...
I LUV SHAKUYA
WE FREQUENTLY TALKED ON PAPER
Ya?
WHY?
How should I say it, this person
He's a soft person, isn't he.?

Apricot
Sesame balls
I'LL GO GET THEM.
By the way, this here is our gift.
WHAT KIND OF TEA AND SNACKS WOULD YOU LIKE?
AH
GUESTS, THE ROOMS ARE OVER HERE
This place isn't bad!
Yeah
HOWEVER, THE HOUSE OWNER'S SON REALLY IS COURAGEOUS
THOUGH IT'S THE DRAGON'S OASIS...
THEY ARE SCALY SHAPE CHANGING CREATURES!
IF IT WERE ME I WOULD BE SCARED TO MARRY HER!

CALL HER "SHAKUYA-SAMA"?
THE DRAGON'S
WAIT
DID YOU JUST
SHAKUYA-SAMA!
WHO SAID YOU COULD SUDDENLY STOP
I SHOULD APOLOGISE
NO NO
This is going on into the blood
I WAS
TALKING WITHOUT THINKING
AH
SHAKUYA-SAMA.

ナイ
AH
BECAUSE THIS IS A VERY IMPORTANT THING, THAT'S WHY
EH...
THIS IS AN IMPORTANT GIFT
THAT'S WHY...
So I don't think...

Rupina wants to hear cute screams of fear
RUSHIN-SAMA
IS THERE A PLACE WHERE YOU CAN CATCH A LOT OF SPIDERS AROUND HERE?
I JUST NEED ENOUGH TO COVER A BODY
RUPINA!
FOREIGNERS ARE SOME-TIMES LIKE THAT
I KNOW WHY RUPINA IS ANGRY. BUT
WHAT ABOUT YOUR COMPOSURE? YOU'RE BEING VERY DIRECT!
I JUST HOPE IT ISN'T BROKEN
Not been touched by the monster, right?

YOU CAN'T CHANGE THAT

PEOPLE HAVE DIFFERING OPINIONS

GO TO THE GARDEN AND WAIT FOR ME
I'LL BE THERE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

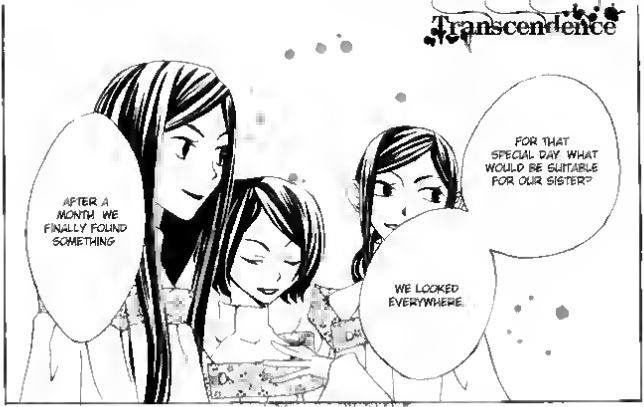
SHAKUYA,

I feel...
I really shouldn't have come today
RUSHIN'S MOM!
IS MY HOUSE'S GARDEN SO DEPRESSING?
EVEN THOUGH RUSHIN MYSTERIOUSLY CAME HOME
HE RARELY COMES TO APPRECIATE THIS GARDEN, AND ALWAYS RUNS TOWARDS THE PALACE
MY DREAM IS FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY TO COME TOGETHER FOR A BARBECUE. IS THAT AN IMPOSSIBLE WISH?
AS FOR THAT
BBQ
CAN'T HE RECOVER HIS MEMORIES EARLIER?
THE FAMILY
AND ALSO ME. HE HAS FORGOTTEN EVERYTHING
THAT'S WHY HE IS UNABLE TO KEEP STILL

EXCUSE ME
ROOM SERVICE
SHAKUYA-SAMA...
HE MAY BE KIND AND GOOD-TEMPERED
BUT THE ONLY PERSON THAT WILL LET HIM BE HAPPY...
IN THE ENTIRE OASIS YOU ARE THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN

I'M VERY ENVIOUS CAN I PINCH YOUR CHEEKS?
NO THANKS
EVEN IF YOU ALSO DON'T CARE MUCH ABOUT RUSHIN
as a mother I wish
AT LEAST PLEASE DO NOT HARM HIM.
I UNDERSTAND THAT WHAT I HAVE SAID IS NOT REALLY MY BUSINESS
he had completely forgotten ..
Rushin he
the one who thought about him.
I didn't know memory loss ...
JUST NOW YOU
WERE WITH THE DRAGON ..
was such a serious matter

IT WAS A SLIP OF THE TONGUE
SO IT'S YOU?
I WAS THE "COURAGEOUS PERSON WHO MARRIED THE DRAGON"
THE SON OF THIS HOUSE
THE THREE OF US ARE HERE TO ATTEND OUR LITTLE SISTER'S WEDDING CEREMONY
YOU TREAT THE BOX SO CAREFULLY.
WHAT'S INSIDE?
THAT IS A WEDDING GIFT
WELL...
SINCE IT'S YOU...
CAN I TAKE A LOOK?


FOR THAT SPECIAL DAY, WHAT WOULD BE SUITABLE FOR OUR SISTER?
WE LOOKED EVERYWHERE...
AFTER A MONTH, WE FINALLY FOUND SOMETHING

THIS IS A GIFT TO EXPRESS OUR FEELINGS...
SO IF IT'S TOUCHED BY THE BEAST IT'LL BE OVER RIGHT!
THIS OASIS IS THE DRAGON'S LAND
SINCE YOU ARE HERE
WITH THAT ATTITUDE ISN'T IT JUST A BIT DISRESPECTFUL?
NO WONDER!
BRINGING THAT UP AGAIN...
THEN I WILL NO LONGER DENY IT

SHAKUYA HAS A HEART
JUST LIKE YOU
THAT IS MY OPINION...
WAIT A SECOND!
WHAT IS RUSHIN DOING...
GET AWAY FROM THE WINDOW!
HAVEN'T WE TOLD YOU WHAT KIND OF OBJECT THAT IS?
I KNOW
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU! WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF IT FELL!

IF IT DROPPED
THEN THAT'S TOO BAD
YOU'RE THINKING OF DROPPING IT?
Smile
THOSE HANDS THAT HAD TOUCHED COLDNESS
IF YOU WERE IN THE DRAGON'S SHOES WHAT WOULD YOU DO?
SOME...
SOMEBODY HELP
EXTEND A HELPING HAND?
AH

SHAKUYA, AH—
SHE'S A GOOD GIRL
YAAAAAAAA!
AH! CATCH IT!

ぽす
Wait, Wait
What are you doing? Kushin!
PLEASE DO NOT
DO ANYTHING THAT WOULD HURT SHAKUYA AGAIN
--- HEY
--- WE UNDER-STAND-

ぽしん
BUT
I'M ANNOYED AT YOU!
SO UN-CARING ABOUT THIS
So SO CHARMING!
Ah, SHAKUYA!
Never thought she could be so cute.

YOUR FACE...
DOES IT HURT?
EH?
NOT AT ALL
I've always thought I couldn't understand Kushin.
but today I feel that I have understood a little about him.
What should I do to help him recover his memories?
THANK YOU VERY MUCH
BUT THE ONLY PERSON THAT WILL LET HIM BE HAPPY...
IT WASN'T ANYTHING SPECIAL.

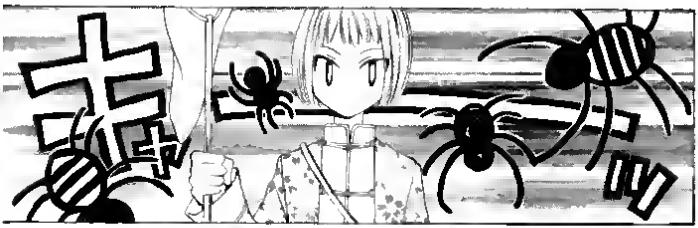
IT'S JUST THAT I LIKE SHAKUYA
...maybe.
SHAKUYA
IN THE ENTIRE OASIS, YOU ARE THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN
TURN AROUND

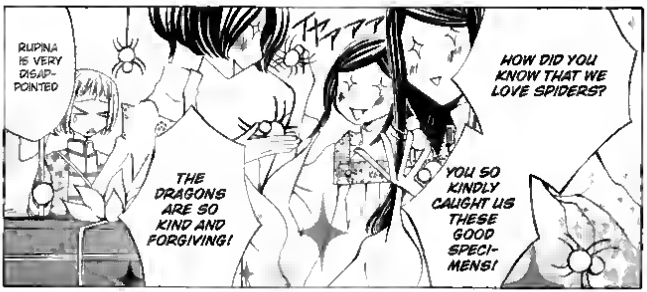
レ!!
Is there someone else outside the oasis?
YA? YOU'VE BECOME COLD
SO YOU'RE IN YOUR OWN ROOM HAVING A CHAT. I SHOULD HAVE GUESSED!
I'M A FAILURE AT BEING A MOTHER, RUSHIN!
ばーん
MOTHER-SAMA
SHAKUYA-SAMA, PLEASE HAVE SOME GRASS JUICE
DRINK TEA, BANISH THOSE EVIL THOUGHTS!
While in the desert, Rushin knew his sensei for 5 years. .
Sensei! Good Boy!
Her Imagination

"TN: GRASS JUICE IS CONSIDERED A HEALTH DRINK OF COURSE ONLY A SPECIAL SPECIES OF GRASS IS USED

What kind of person is she?

I want to meet her.




RUPINA IS VERY DISAP-POINTED
THE DRAGONS ARE SO KIND AND FORGIVING!
YOU SO KINDLY CAUGHT US THESE GOOD SPECI-MENS!
HOW DID YOU KNOW THAT WE LOVE SPIDERS?

CHAPTER 7//END

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-
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-
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Transcendence

Wanted

Dead or Alive

Translators/Editors/Quality Checkers

Rewards:

Alive: Cookies

Dead: Crumbs

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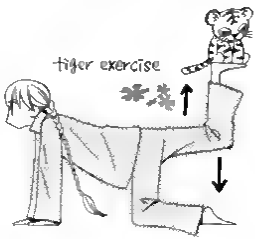
龍の花わずらい

Ryuu no Hanawazurai

第8話

Chapter 8

LOST MEMORIES...
WILL THEY EVER BE REGAINED?
SHAKUYA,
I WAS JUST TAKING A STROLL THROUGH THE PALACE,
WHY DID YOU SUDDENLY POUR UNKNOWN LIQUID ON ME?
I'M TRYING TO RECONSTRUCT THE "FULL OF BLOOD" SCENE...
WOW! JESUS WAS BAPTIZED IN A SIMILAR WAY! MY BELOVED
SPLASH


tiger exercise

IN MY "SPLASH LUCIEN WITH TOMATO SAUCE",
SURPRISE IS AN IMPORTANT ELEMENT.
EH... HENCE YOU SPLASHED ME WITHOUT WARNING?
I THOUGHT IF YOU'RE UNDER SHOCK, YOU COULD REGAIN SOME OF YOUR LOST MEMORIES,
OR AT LEAST REMEMBER SOMETHING, BUT I THINK I FAILED
LOOKS LIKE I HAVE TO USE REAL BLOOD.
Foul smell~
BEAR WITH IT, LUCIEN,
I REEK OF TOMATOES.
FAILURE IS A STEEPING STONE TO SUCCESS! THE STENCH OF TOMATOES MIGHT BE USEFUL SOMEDAYS...
HOW CAN I PUT IT...
THEIR RELATIONSHIP LOOKS GOOD.
GYAA! GYAA!

I'M QUITE SURPRISED.
BECAUSE I ALWAYS THOUGHT SHAKUYA-SAMA IS ONLY INTERESTED IN KUWAN-SAMA.
ITS...
NOT SUCH A SURPRISING DEVELOPMENT
HE CONFESSED TO ME
IGNORE
BUT, I'M LOYAL TO KUWAN-SAMA.
I'M PREPARED TO FOLLOW YOU FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE
THIS IS A PROMISE BETWEEN MEN.

REALLY?
ARE YOU REALLY THIS CONFIDENT THAT YOU'LL WIN SHAKUYA-SAMA'S HEART?
IT'S JUST THAT...

I...
DON'T PLAN ON LOSING OUT.

FOR HER TO BE MOVED,
I THINK ITS UNAVOIDABLE.
Ah- Kuwan
JUST LIKE THE DAY WHEN YOU MET ME...
Lucen was the only thing that came out of Shakuya-sama's lips
SER-GEANT
I HEARD THAT SHE LIKE TO QUARREL WITH THE YOUNGER GENERATION,
LOOKS LIKE WE HAVE TO USE THE EMERGENCY PLAN.
GET MY SON FROM THE OTHER DEPART-MENT,
ERM ...
AND USE HIM HERE
5 YEARS AGO...
THE SECURITY LEVEL HAD BEEN INCREASING IN THE DRAGON PALACE THESE DAYS,
EVEN THE COM-MANDER HAD BEEN FIRED DUE TO SHAKUYA-SAMA,
AND INJURIES ARE ON THE RISE
NOISE
NOISE
COM-MANDER KUWAN KIRI!

Kuwan Kiri
21 years old
UNDER-STOOD.
SHAKUYA-SAMA WANTS TO GET OUT OF THE PALACE AGAIN
PLEASE COME HERE FOR A WHILE !
I DON'T WANT MORE PEOPLE TO GET HURT.
I can't control my powers well.
IF I GET NERVOUS, I'LL BECOME A DRAGON. I DON'T WANT TO USE VIOLENCE.
DO NOT COME CLOSER!
Shakuya
10 years old
I CAN'T STAY HERE AND DO NOTHING!
HE HAD BEEN MISSING FOR MORE THAN A WEEK, RIGHT?
BUT I HAVE TO FIND LUCIEN !
IF THAT'S SO, PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE THE PALACE.
DO NOT FORCE USE INTO ACTION.

LN clock
Ohhh~
Faint
THAT'S THE FIRST TIME I MET HER
SHE'S STILL A KID ..
I never saw her this close
SO THIS IS SHAKUYA-SAMA?
THAT'S TROUBLE-SOME —

TAKING SUCH MEANS FOR A KID ...
THESE PEOPLE ARE REALLY ...
It hurts!
Mine is the same.
GOOD WORK COMMANDER, WHERE SHAKUYA-SAMA?
SHE FAINTED JUST NOW, I HAD THE SERVANTS TO BRING HER TO HER ROOM.
THANK GOOD-NESS,
SHE'S NORMALLY STUBBORN, ITS VERY TROUBLE-SOME ..
YOU MUST REALLY LOOK DOWN ON US, RIGHT?
Born with a silver spoon in her mouth.
YEAH That's Shaku.
THAT'S BECAUSE YOU DID NOT SEE THE TRANSFORMED SHAKUYA-SAMA
YOU DID NOT WORK AS GUARDS IN THE PALACE, HENCE DID NOT HAVE ANY EXPERIENCE WITH THE TRANSFORMED SHAKUYA-SAMA.
YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND HOW THE SITUATION IS
WHEN SHE IS TRANSFORMED, THAT IS WHEN REAL FEAR BREAKS OUT.
ITS ALL EXCUSES.
MATCH-STICKS, CHECKED.
COMPASS, CHECKED
WATER BOTTLE, CHECKED
OK! ESCAPE -- AGAIN!!

.....
WHO ARE YOU?
IF THAT'S SO, YOU SHOULDN'T TAKE THIS ROUTE
Serious
YOU REALLY EXPECT YOURSELF TO ESCAPE?
あ AH!
SO YOU WERE THE ONE JUST NOW.
I DIDN'T HAVE THE CHANCE TO TURN AROUND SO I DON'T KNOW WHO IT WAS!
I'M COMMANDER OF THE SECURITY PLATOON, KUWAN KIRI
I'M THE ONE THAT "ATTACKED" YOU JUST NOW. PARDON MY RUDENESS
I ONLY WANTED TO LOOK FOR LUCIEN
I DON'T WANT TO ESCAPE AT ALL.
NO CAN DO!
Catch!

Oh, my! Shakuya-sama.
PINDING MISSING PEOPLE IN THE PALACE IS THE DUTY OF A GUARD IN THE PALACE
tap tap tap tap
NO! I DON'T WANT TO!
IT MIGHT BE FASTER IF I WENT TO FIND LUCIEN.
kick kick
SHAKUYA-SAMA, WOULD YOU PLEASE KINDLY STAY AT HOME
AND DON'T DISOBEY WHAT ADULTS SAY.
WITH YOUR BACKPACK OR NOT, YOU'RE NOT ALLOWED TO GO.
PEOPLE LIKE YOU USED SO MUCH EFFORT JUST TO DEAL WITH ME.
I MAY BE OF USE IN SOME SITUATIONS.
ぽっ slip
I EVEN BROUGHT MY BACKPACK WITH ME!
すたん.
Scoop ひょい
PRAY TO WHAT ?
IN THIS OASIS, THE DRAGON IS STILL THE MIGHTIEST.
YOU SHOULD BE OBEDIENTLY PRAYING FOR HIS RETURN IN YOU ROOM.

すっ
YOU'RE SO EVIL!
THEN YOU COULD MAKE A CLAY MODEL OF YOURSELF AND PRAY TO THAT.
WHAT KIND OF ANSWER IS THAT?
YOUR NAME IS KUWAN RIGHT? I'LL NEVER FORGET THAT FACE!
ぼっ
BYE!
I NEVER SAW HER TRANSFORM INTO A DRAGON.

She's still a kid

ARRESTED
KEEPING SHAKUYA-SAMA IN THE PALACE IS MY DUTY, FURTHER-MORE,
SHE HAD BEEN "CHARGED" WITH OBSTRUCTING THE GUARDS DUTY.
Ruirui 9 years old
SO..
YOU'RE STILL ARRESTED IN THE END?
KUWAN IS A BIG IDIOT!
I should have the authority instead.
CLENCH

Ignore
AH
HE JUST WANTS TO BE THE APPLE OF THE SERGEANT'S EYE, RIGHT?
IF NOT, HE'LL BE CHASED OUT OF THE HOUSE, WON'T HE?
.....
IGNORANT PEOPLE.
HE MAY LOOK CALM, BUT DEEP DOWN, HE MUST BE ANXIOUS
chatter chatter
THIS COMMANDER IS PRETTY GOOD
EVEN IF HE HAS THE SKILL, HE STILL NEGLECTED THE FACT THAT
SHAKUYA-SAMA IS THE PRINCESS
HE MIGHT BE THE SERGEANT'S SON, BUT HE'S JUST AN ADOPTIVE SON.
HE'S AN ORPHAN,
I HEARD THAT WHEN HE'S YOUNG HE DONATED HIS EYE TO THE SERGEANT, HENCE THE SERGEANT ADOPTED HIM.

WHAT ?
ARE YOU TRYING TO ACT SLUR? THOSE PEOPLE WERE BAD-MOUTHING YOU
MAYBE. BUT ALL THEY SAID IS TRUE.
.....
DON'T YOU MIND ?
MY ACTIONS MAY BRING ABOUT MUCH
DISSENT FROM THEM, BUT,
YOUR ISSUE IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN THAT.
KUWAN, HOW OLD ARE YOU?
21
?
YOU SEEMED MORE MATURE THAN THEM.

THIS IS SO HEAVY
RUB!
RUB!
RUB!
RUB!
RUB!
RUB!
RUB!
RUB!
RUB!
RUB!
.....
According to the reports he should be fine in 3 weeks time.
How is the settlement?
IS THAT A COMPLIMENT ... ?

TURN!
RETURN ME
AH!
CONFISCATED!
Not allowed to break the look.
My own!

BOTH OF YOU WERE QUARREL-LING?
.....
IS NOT ANSWERING MY QUESTIONS AT ALL.
BECAUSE MOTHER
I'LL SIGN IT LATER.
YES SIR!
THE QUESTIONS CONCERNING FATHER
NO WONDER ...
HER PARENTS PROBLEMS ARE TROUBLING HER AS WELL.
IT SCARED ME
THEY SIMPLY TOLD ME THAT THEY WERE GETTING DIVORCED

THE REASON IS THAT YOUR FATHER HAD A MISTRESS, RIGHT?
WHAT DID YOU ASK YOUR MOTHER ?
TOO SUDDEN FOR ME TO BELIEVE ANYTHING,
HENCE, I ASKED HER WHO AND WHERE THE OTHER WOMAN IS,
NOT A BAD FIRST QUESTION TO ASK
WHAT HAPPENED,
AND ALSO WHERE SHE BANISHED FATHER.
THE MOST IMPORTANT THING IS ...
BEFORE THE DIVORCE,
I CAN'T DO ANYTHING TO STOP IT ...
OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT
THERE ISN'T ANYTHING YOU CAN DO RIGHT ?
Eh?
THERE SHOULD BE ONE OR TWO, SHOULDN'T THERE BE?
So direct!
WELL ...

IN THIS WORLD, THERE'S ALWAYS SOMETHING THAT ONE CANNOT DO ANYTHING TO PREVENT IT.
FOR EXAMPLE, LIKE THE HANDCUFFS ON YOU, YOU CAN'T GET IT OFF.
THIS KIND OF ....
THINGS THAT CAN OPEN,
IS EASY TO OPEN
WHEN I BELIEVE THAT I CAN OPEN IT.

I DON'T CARE IF I CAN HELP OR NOT, BUT IF YOU DON'T TRY, YOU'LL NEVER KNOW,
OR THERE MIGHT BE A TOTALLY DIFFERENT RESULT.
IT'S THE SAME CASE WITH LUCIEN,
IF I HELPED, MAYBE HE MIGHT BE FOUND!
JUST LIKE THE DIVORCE.
IF ONE WORKS HARD, THERE MIGHT NOT BE SUCH AN ENDING,
IF I REALLY CAN'T FIND HIM
IF THE RESULTS IS STILL NO DESIRED, IT'S NOT REALLY ANYONE'S FAULT ANYMORE.
THE CASE CAN BE STILL HANDED TO THE ADULTS TO SETTLE.
She's hurt

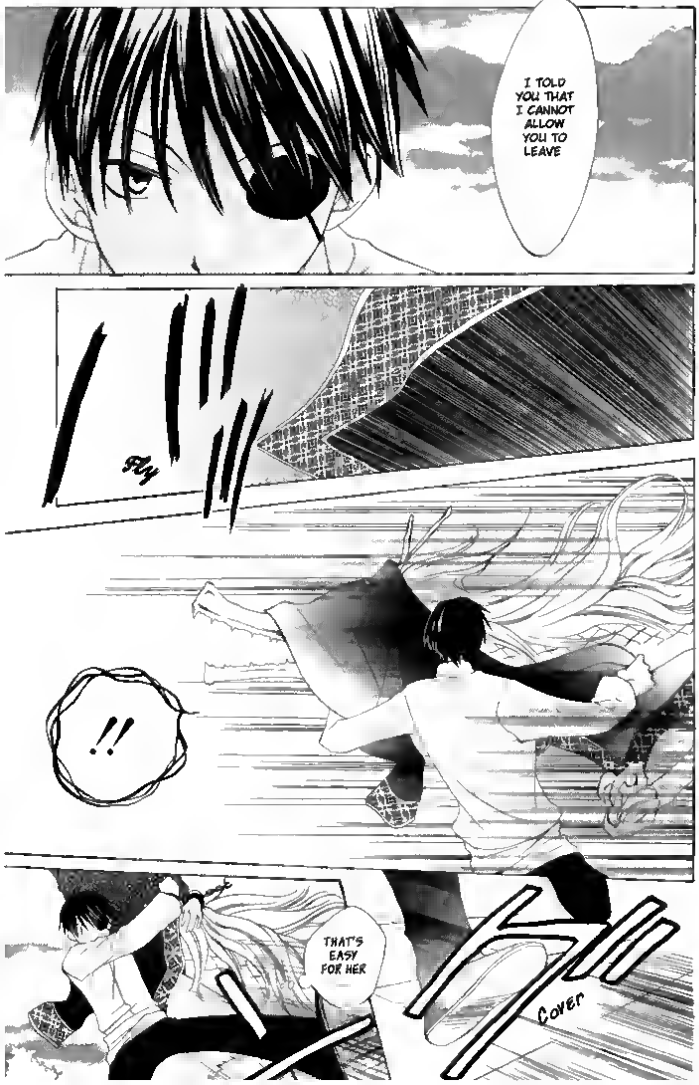
EVEN THOUGH
I'M STILL A KID,
I AM A DRAGON TOO.
THERE MUST BE SOMETHING I CAN DO WHILE THE ADULTS CAN'T, RIGHT ...?

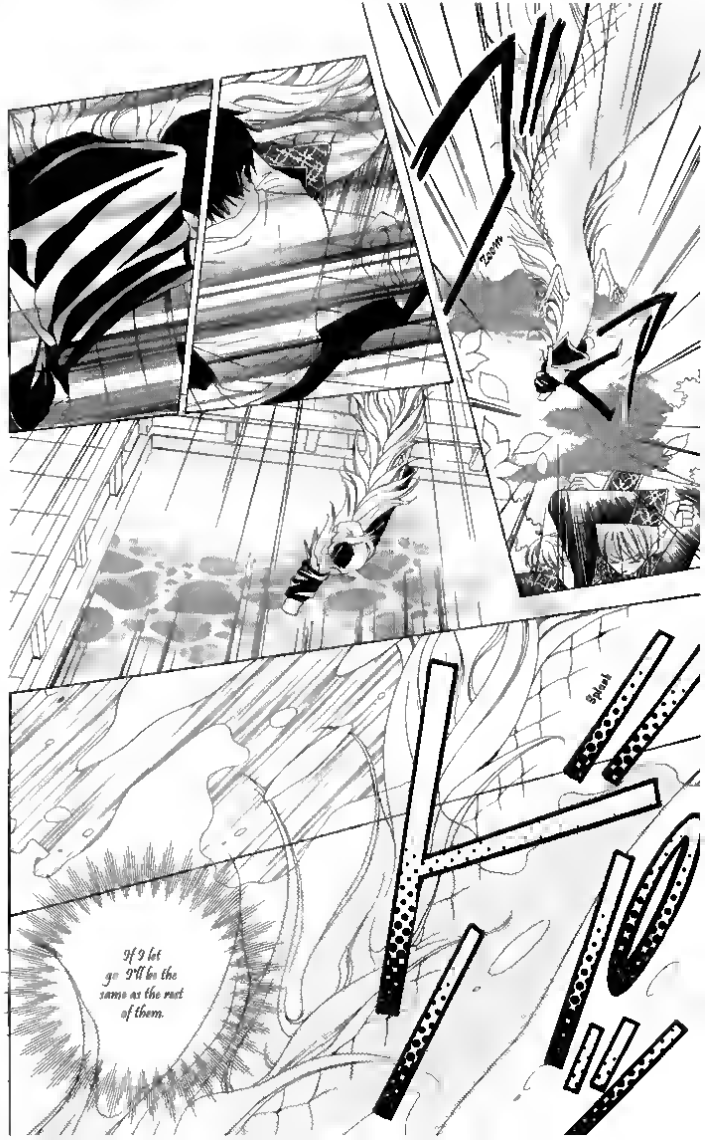
That's
A dragon
SHAKUYA-SAMA
AGAIN?
SHE WANTS TO ESCAPE AGAIN?
PREPARE FOR EMERGENCY!
EVEN THOUGH THE DRAGON IS HER, IF NOT CONTROLLED,
SHE'LL STILL BE DISASTROUS
Yes sir!

But the main problem is that she's hurt, that's why she can't sit still.
YOU MUST SHOW YOUR SKILLS (SNEER)
COM-MANDER,
It's those people.
OK
Even if there's someone that says "leave it to me"
IT HURTS
COM-MANDER
Twist
Ah!
Adults are not trustable.
In that dragon's eyes.
Knock
Knock

HOLD THIS FOR ME.
YES SIR
AH!
Even so

SHE'S HEADING HERE ...!
GROWL


I TOLD YOU THAT I CANNOT ALLOW YOU TO LEAVE
FLY
!!
THAT'S EASY FOR HER
Cover


Zoom
Splash
If I let go I'll be the same as the rest of them.

EH
..
SILENCE
HOW MUCH TIME HAD PASSED ?
SWIM...

.....
----LISTEN, SHAKUYA-SAMA.
I'M DIFFERENT.
IF YOU COME WITH ME..

Fuu...
Fuu...
Fuu...
Fuu...

I should

Have the
authority instead.

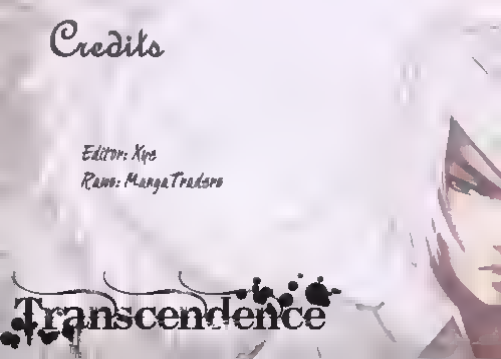
If I can have Lucien have his memories regained, I have to pour tomato sauce
So.
So that's how it is.
I BELIEVE ...
ITS ...
JUST LIKE BEFORE.

CHAPTER 8 - END

Credits

Editor: Xyc

Raws: MangaTraders



Wanted

Dead or Alive

Translators/Editors/Quality Checkers

Rewards:

Alive: Cookies

Dead: Crumbs

[illegible] email.com

Part of the [illegible] project at Transcendence

龍の花わずらい
Episode 9

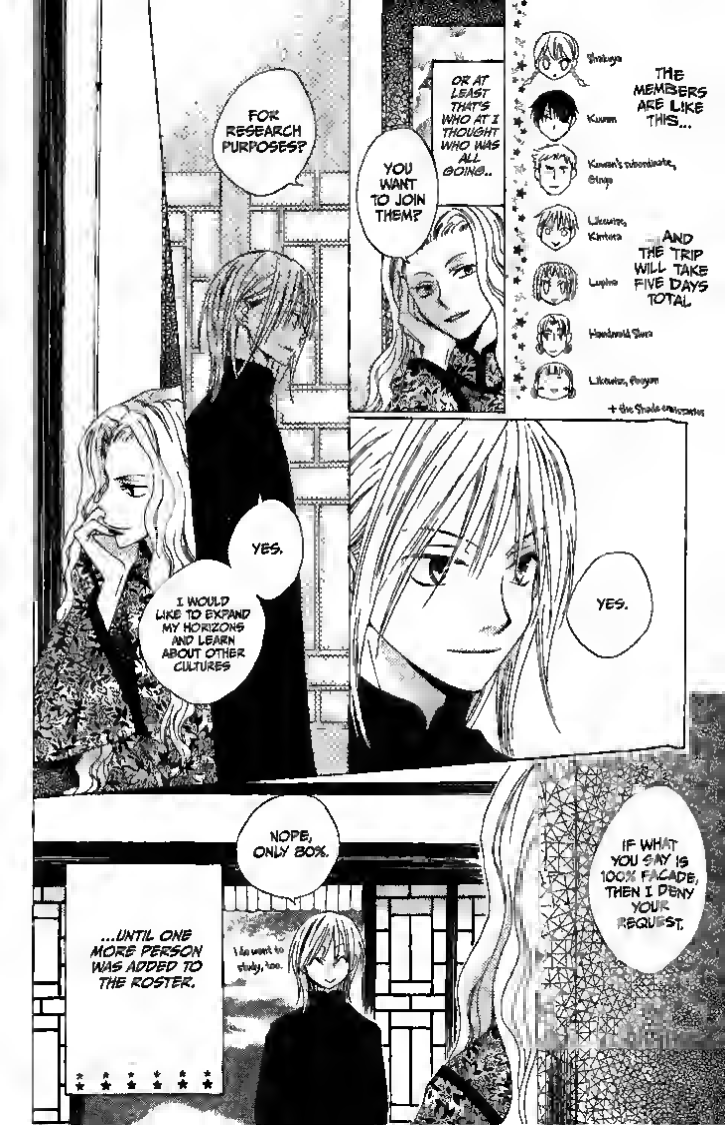
YOU HAVE COME A LONG WAY, EMISSARIES OF THE SHADE.
VERY WELL. THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW...
..I SHALL SEND SHAKUYA FROM THE OASIS OF THE DRAGON TO THE OASIS OF THE SHADE.
...TO TAKE THE CUSTOMARY WATER ADJUSTMENT

tiger exercise

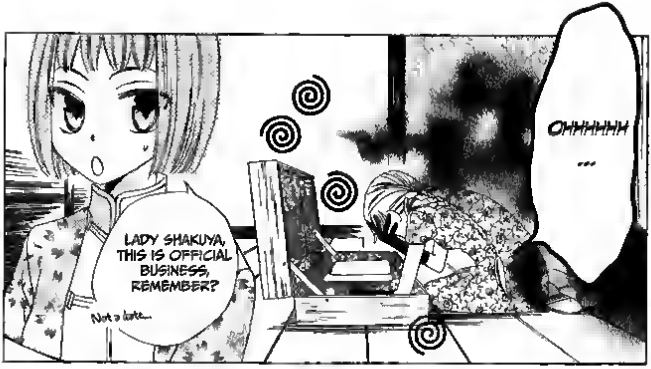
IF YOU'RE WONDERING WHAT THIS IS ABOUT...
YOU CONSENT, SHAKUYA?
YES, MOTHER.
DRAGON LEADER. DRAGON PRINCESS...
WE THANK YOU.
AS A MEMBER OF THE DRAGON CLAN, EVEN I'M GIVEN DUTIES TO FULFILL FROM TIME TO TIME
..IT'S WORK
...BUT WHEREVER THERE'S A ROUTE NEAR A VEIN OF WATER...
...YOU'RE SURE TO FIND A NUMBER OF OASES.
DRA-GON
THE DRAGON OASIS IS POSITIONED SMACK-DAB IN THE CENTER OF THE DESERT.
WHEN IT COMES TO SCALE AND AMOUNT OF WATER, WE SURPASS ALL OTHERS. .

MY DUTY THIS TIME IS TO ADJUST THE WATER INFLOW.
EVEN THOUGH IT'S SMALL, IT FLOURISHES IN GRAPE CULTIVATION...
...AND IS A BEAUTIFUL OASIS.
THE SHADE OASIS IS ONE OF THEM.
NOT EVEN ONE CAN AFFORD TO BE NEGLECTED.
IN A DESERT, AN OASIS IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN LIFE AND DEATH.
GRIN
HUH?
...BUT YOU'VE GOT A BIG SMILE ON YOUR FACE
LADY SHAKUYA... YOU MAY BE THINKING SERIOUS THOUGHTS...
SO WE WORK TOGETHER TO PROTECT EACH OTHER.

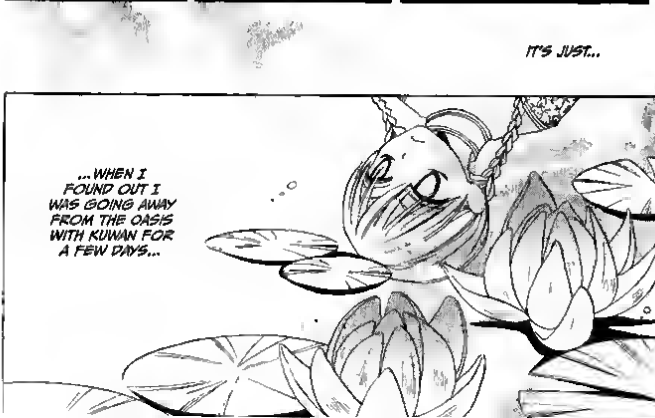
LADY SHAKUYA..
WE'LL BE DEPARTING EARLY THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW...
...SO TAKE CARE NOT TO OVERSLEEP.
ALSO, YOU TEND TO PACK TOO MUCH ON THESE OUTINGS, SO..
YESSIR!
THAT'S RIGHT
FWIP
I'LL DO MY BEST!
KUWAN ALWAYS ACCOMPANIES ME ON THESE DUTIES
IT'S NOT OFTEN THAT I GET AROUND THE CLOCK COVERAGE FROM HIM...
WITH A SMILE LIKE THAT, IT'D BE NICE TO HAVE SOMEONE WHO WOULD RETURN IT..
Too bad...
...SO WHEN THESE OPPORTUNITIES DO COME UP, I CAN'T KEEP A SILLY SMILE FROM SPREADING ACROSS MY FACE
Hehh-heh-heh...
NO, NOT THIS TIME.
SHE'S WALKING ON AIR...
(You'll just have to splash my face with cold water SO three!
I'm so anxious about this situation, I'll stay on a thumbtack without flinching!)
THIS IS ABOUT WORK!
I'M GOING THERE TO WORK!


FOR RESEARCH PURPOSES?
YOU WANT TO JOIN THEM?
OR AT LEAST THAT'S WHO AT I THOUGHT WHO WAS ALL GOING..
Shakuya
Kuram
Kuram's subordinate, Ginga
Likesame, Kintora
Lupino
Hawkwind Shen
Likesame, Aogan
+ the Shade executive
THE MEMBERS ARE LIKE THIS...
AND THE TRIP WILL TAKE FIVE DAYS TOTAL
YES.
I WOULD LIKE TO EXPAND MY HORIZONS AND LEARN ABOUT OTHER CULTURES
YES.
NOPE, ONLY BOX.
I do want to study, too.
...UNTIL ONE MORE PERSON WAS ADDED TO THE ROSTER.
IF WHAT YOU SAY IS 100% FACADE, THEN I DENY YOUR REQUEST.

6
Packing
My style of packing for a trip hasn't improved since the days of my school trips. If I'm not careful, I end up bringing garbage bags full of my extra odds and ends along with me. I don't think adults are supposed to be this way when going on trips.
And then, when it's time to go home, it's like my luggage somehow becomes twice as heavy. What do I buy that weighs it down that much? Next time I'm on a trip, I'll challenge myself not to buy anything while I'm there.
CLA
TTER
...WHAT?!
GONG
OHHH...
IT SEEMS THAT LUCIEN IS GOING AS WELL.
OHHH
WHY??!
UHUHH
OHHH...
Packing


OHHHHHH
...
LADY SHAKUYA, THIS IS OFFICIAL BUSINESS, REMEMBER?
Not a date...

THAT'S RIGHT! IT'S BUSINESS!
I'M WELL AWARE OF THAT!
AFTER ALL, NOTHING ABOUT KUWAN'S ATTITUDE HAS CHANGED, JUST BECAUSE WE'RE GOING ON A TRIP.
...AND IT'S NOT AS IF I WAS EXPECTING ANY NEW DEVELOPMENTS BETWEEN US...
WELL, MAYBE I WAS, A LITTLE...


IT'S JUST...
...WHEN I FOUND OUT I WAS GOING AWAY FROM THE OASIS WITH KUWAN FOR A FEW DAYS...

SHAKUYA...
BUT THIS IS MY SELFISHNESS TALKING.
LUCIEN DIDN'T DO ANYTHING WRONG.
GRIN
LUCIEN...
...I WAS THRILLED...
...BECAUSE I FELT A FRESH WAVE OF LOVE FOR HIM...
...AND IT'D BEEN A WHILE SINCE I FELT THAT STRONGLY
NOPE. I'M THE SAME AS USUAL.
I'LL SMILE AS IF EVERYTHING'S NORMAL...
IT LOOKS LIKE...
...YOU'RE HOLDING SOMETHING IN.
AH, I SEE. ONE OF YOUR FILLINGS MUST HAVE COME LOOSE
GRIN
GRIN
Whew...

THEN ARE YOU PLEASED?
ARE YOU DISAP-POINTED...
...BECAUSE I'M GOING...
...ON THE TRIP?
.....
I see...
.....
YOU DON'T GET MUCH PRIVATE TIME WITH KUWAN..
...AND I'M GOING TO BE IN THE WAY. SORRY ABOUT THAT
BUT IF YOU DON'T LIKE IT, YOU SHOULD SAY SO.
AND THEN MAYBE I'LL RECONSIDER.
I CAN'T TELL IF THAT'S A SMILE OR A GRIMACE.
POP

..YOU DON'T WANT ME TO GO?
...I DON'T WANT YOU TO GO
I guess...
SQUEEZE
OWW!
THAT'S WHAT YOU SAY, BUT LET ME SEE THAT GROWING BUD ONE MORE TIME!
Gyaaa!
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO ENCOURAGED ME TO SAY SO IF I DON'T WANT YOU TO GO!
I WANT TO KNOW YOUR TRUE FEELINGS!
THAT IS!
AND THAT BUD YOU'RE LOOKING FOR MAY JUST HAVE DIED ON THE VINE!

TWITCH
UM...
LUCIEN...
SLIP...
AH...

...LIAR.
Oh...
I...
SORRY ...
...SHOULDN'T HAVE SAID...
SHAKUYA...
YOU PROBABLY JUST HAVE A FATHER COMPLEX.
IT'S TIME FOR YOU TO GET OVER KUWAN ALREADY.
REVENGE.
GRRR
AH... I COULD FEEL THE ROSE WILTING RIGHT THERE.
GOING... GOING... GONE.
YEP IT'S DEFINITELY DEAD.
TUG

GOOD-BYE!
HMPH
FWISH!
I HAVE NEVER SEEN EVEN A GLIMMER OF MY FATHER...
...IN KUWAN!
THUMP
...HUH?
SHOOT.
I DIDN'T MEAN TO GET INTO A FIGHT...

STOMP
STOMP
STOMP

I'LL NEVER FORGIVE HIM!
I WON'T FORGIVE YOU FOR THIS, LUCIEN!
I WISH I COULD HOLD ON TO THAT THOUGHT.

LATER!
OH, LADY SHAKUYA! HAVE YOU PACKED?
STOMP
I'M GOING TO STAND UNDER THE WATERFALL FOR A BIT

...LOOK NOTHING LIKE EACH OTHER
MY FATHER AND KUWAN..

...BUT COME TO THINK OF IT, I BELIEVE I STARTED THE ARGUMENT..
SPUTTER
SPUTTER

HIS NAME IS HAKURAI AND HE COMES FROM A LONG LINE OF TEACHERS.
MY FATHER WEARS GLASSES AND LOOKS JUST LIKE A SCHOLAR.

Right! Schoolwork and martial arts!
A HEALTHY BODY DOESN'T ALWAYS MEAN THERE'S A HEALTHY SOUL WITHIN...
...BUT YOU'LL NEVER LOSE ANYTHING BY BEING HEALTHY
EARLY MORNING EXERCISES
WHY DON'T YOU DO SOME FLOOR EXERCISES?
I'VE GOT MY OWN SCHEDULE THAT'S TAILORED TO ME.
SWISH
SWISH
AH... OKAY...
AFTER FATHER WAS BANISHED
MAYBE THEIR ONE COMMON FACTOR IS BEING POLITE...?

MAYBE HUMAN FEELINGS ARE MORE COMPLEX...

RUMBLE RUMBLE
RUMBLE
...THAN I IMAGINE.
KUWAN! KUWAN!
WOW!!
IT APPEARS THAT LUCIEN WILL BE ACCOMPANYING US AS WELL ON OUR WATER ADJUSTMENT TRIP.
Tsuuri Tsuuri
RUMBLE
Oh. EXCUSE ME.
DID YOU CALL ME?
RUMBLE
KYAAA!
RUMBLE
SORRY! I WAS JUST SINGING TO LIFT MY SPIRITS!
And cool my head...
Ah...
...yes.
Plush
DOES IT BOTHER YOU?

I CONSIDER IT A SLIGHT HINDRANCE...
ONLY SLIGHT...?
AH...
THE STORAGE ROOM WITH HER FATHER'S TRUNK.
SLIGHT.
AS A DECLARATION OF WAR, IT FALLS SHORT OF THE MARK.
ANNOYING AS IT IS..
DOES IT FALL SHORT OF THE MARK?

...IS BE PREPARED.
IF YOU..
...TRULY LOVE ME..
SNIFF..
WHAT I WOULD LIKE TO SAY...
...TO YOU, LADY SHAKUYA.
...MORE THAN TO LUCIEN...
...THEN PREPARE...
...TO ACCEPT MY LOVE.

I...
I BELIEVE I'M PREPARED...
THEN YOU NEED DO NO MORE
Mentioning Kuwan and her father woke something click in my head...
ALL I CAN DO...
...IS WHISPER THAT I LOVE HER.

...COMPARED TO...
...MY ONE TINY ROSEBUD.
I DON'T EVEN WANT TO COUNT HOW MANY FLOWERS THE ENEMY HAS...
KLAK
BUT BECAUSE OF THAT ONE...
IS EVERYTHING IN HERE RELATED TO HER FATHER?
BOOKS AND ALL KINDS OF THINGS...
BECAUSE IT MEANS THAT I'VE STAKED OUT A CORNER OF SHAKUYA'S HEART.
I'M INTOXICATED WITH RELIEF
SO WHY THE HELL DO I HAVE TO GO AND SCREW IT UP...
...BY MAKING HER MAD AT ME?

WHAT'S THIS...?
A HANDMAID'S JOURNAL?
HOW DID IT FIND ITS WAY HERE?
FLIP
FLUTTER
RUSTLE

MY TEACHER...?
Hmm...
WHO IS IT?
OR AT LEAST IT REMINDS ME OF HER...
IS THERE SOME KIND OF EXPLANATION IN HERE...?
FLIP
FLIP
FLIP
SAW HE FROM THE SAD
ACCORDING TO WITNESS "A",
HAD AN AFFAIR WITH A DANCER
WHO'S VERY SKILLFUL AT DRAWING, DREW THE WOMAN AS
IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE
EH...?

WAIT...
...A SECOND HERE!!
THE MORNING OF THE DEPARTURE...
GOOD MORNING, MEN OF THE SHADE.
GOOD MORNING, LADY SHAKUYA.
LOOK AT MY LUGGAGE. COMPACT, ISN'T IT?!
OH! LUCIEN...
YOU'RE PALE THIS MORNING. ARE YOU WELL, SIR?
AH... YES, I'M FINE.
SOFT, MEDIUM OR HARD?
WHICH LEVEL OF ABUSE WOULD YOU LIKE?
I'LL LEAVE IT UP TO YOU.

.. SHE HAD TO HAVE KNOWN OF THIS TATTOO.
ASSUMING THAT THE DRAWING ..
.. OF SHAKUYA'S FATHER'S LOVER IS OF MY TEACHER...
BUT IT TOOK ME...
...FIVE YEARS TO GET BACK HOME.
WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?
ONE GLANCE AT IT WOULD'VE TOLD HER EXACTLY WHO I WAS.
IS IT THE PICTURE OF A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT PERSON?
OR DID MY TEACHER..
...HAVE AN AGENDA?

A RUMOR?
THERE WAS A RUMOR ABOUT SHAKUYA'S FATHER'S EXTRA-MARITAL LOVER.
THUMP!
BY THE WAY...
...A FEW DAYS AGO, I WAS THINKING ABOUT THE PAST AND SOMETHING POPPED INTO MY HEAD.
MAYBE YOU KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT IT, LUPINA...
BUT THE RUMOR HAS IT THAT A WOMAN, A DANCER FROM HER APPEARANCE
WAS SEEN BY A HANDMAID JUST OUTSIDE LADY SHAKUYA'S FATHER'S ROOM.
YOU DON'T KNOW ABOUT IT...? WELL, IT SEEMS THE SCANDAL WAS HUSHED UP...
OH...
REALLY...?
...SO LADY SHAKUYA WOULDN'T GET WIND OF IT
LUCIEN'S SWORD TEACHER WAS A DANCER, TOO!
BUT I'M SURE THE SIMILARITY ENDS THERE.
A DANCER?!
THAT REMINDS ME...

OH... A SWORD TEACHER?
SHE TOOK CARE OF YOU WHILE YOU LIVED IN THE DESERT, RIGHT?
THAT'S RIGHT.
I CAN'T SAY ANYTHING...
I DON'T KNOW IF I SHOULD CALL OUT TO HIM OR NOT...
SHIN

YOU REALLY NEED TO HAVE YOUR PERSONALITY ADJUSTED.
WHY? I FIND NOTHING WRONG WITH IT.
CLOP
CLOP
LADY SHAKUYA JUST IGNORED YOU.
IT WAS OBVIOUS TO ANYONE WHO WAS WATCHING.
WHY DON'T YOU GO HOME..
...AND RELAX, LUCIEN?
UNTIL THE SEVERE WOUND OF A BROKEN HEART HEALS.
MY HEART..
.. HASN'T BEEN BROKEN YET!
IF YOU DON'T REHEARSE A LITTLE BIT YOURSELF, IT'S GOING TO GO DOWN HARDER ON YOU IF THE TABLES ARE TURNED.
Jerk...
CLOP
THEN WHY NOT GO HOME TO REHEARSE?
CLOP

...LET ME TELL YOU, THERE ARE NO ABSOLUTES IN THIS WORLD.
Laugh through your nose at me, will ya...?
HMPF
IF THE TABLES ARE TURNED...
ZAA
AA

I'VE NEVER HAD A FIGHT WITH KUWAN...
SO I'M NOT USED TO THIS KIND OF SITUATION
Sigh. Geez! How am I supposed to act towards him?
AND KUWAN!
I CAN'T GET HIS WORDS ABOUT "PREPARING MYSELF" OUT OF MY HEAD!
AND WITH THAT..
NO, NO, NO!
WORK COMES FIRST!!
...THE EVENTFUL PUBLIC DUTY TRIP BEGAN.

はぐるまつかい
歯車使い
THE COGWHEELER

ANOTHER DANGEROUS DAY...
US
TLE
—FOR THE EARTH
...MURDER.
ACCIDENT
TRAGEDY.
ACCIDENT.
HONK HONK
VROOOO...
EVERY DAY, WE MAKE THE MODEL OUT OF THIS KIND OF THING... MMM...
BUT I DON'T SEE A BIG DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THIS AND THE USUAL BLUEPRINT.

I WANT TO ACTUALLY GO DOWN THERE MYSELF.
TO LEARN THE IMPORTANCE OF THE COGWHEELS
SOMEWHERE... ON THE OTHER SIDE...
...ARE PEOPLE WHO RECORD EVERYTHING THAT OCCURS ON EARTH.
HUH? KATORI..
THEY USE COGWHEELS IN THEIR WORK.
HENCE THEIR NICKNAME, THE "COG-WHEELERS".
UH-HUH.
HAVE YESTERDAY'S BLUEPRINTS COME IN?

COME ON, THAT'S A BIG EVENT.
We won't get anywhere with this...
BE HAPPY FOR THEM!
EASIER SAID THAN DONE...
HUH. YESTERDAY, A ROCKET WAS LAUNCHED.
IT'S A PAIN TO BUILD THE WHEEL FOR THINGS THAT HAPPEN IN SPACE.
WHEN I LOOK AT THE BLUEPRINT...
...I CAN SEE HOW ALL OF THE EVENTS FIT AND FLOW TOGETHER.
IT'S LIKE A PUZZLE.
BUT BECAUSE OF THAT, IT'S HARD TO EMPATHIZE WITH ANYTHING THAT'S GOING ON.
WELL. I KNOW WHERE YOU'RE COMING FROM, BUT.
RIGHT?
TAKE SOMEBODY WHO FINDS MONEY ON THE GROUND...
ALL I CAN THINK IS, "I SEE.."
I CAN'T IMAGINE HOW SHE FEELS ABOUT IT
Diagram
Looking down and muttering complaints
Discovery of a flight
Going home with a friend
Result: finding money on the ground
Getting angry and taking a different way home

CERTAINLY
...IT'S OUR JOB TO OBJECTIFY EVENTS THAT HAPPEN DOWN THERE.
I'M SURE THE SPINNING OF ALL THESE COG-WHEELS...
...HAS MEANING...
BUT SINCE I'VE NEVER BEEN TO EARTH MYSELF, I CAN'T MAKE HEADS OR TAILS OF IT
OKAY THAT'S IT I'M GOING TO CHECK IT OUT. FINISH UP FOR ME, ALL RIGHT?
EH? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS!
KATORI, THAT'S AGAINST REGULATIONS!!
WAIT!!
DON'T DO THIS!!
YOU DON'T EXPECT ME TO DO ALL THIS WORK BY MYSELF, ?!
KATORI!!
PEEEP

OH...
SO THIS IS A GREEN LIGHT.
First time I've seen one...
THAT MEANS I CAN CROSS.
YANK
WHA!
VROOOM
WELL, THAT WAS A LITTLE SCARY.
IT'S DANGEROUS TO CROSS THE SECOND AFTER THE LIGHT CHANGES. IDIOT DRIVER...
THANK YOU FOR PULLING ME BACK.
NO PROBLEM. IT HAPPENS A LOT.

AH...
I wouldn't want to go back right after dashing off
A LOT...? I'D BETTER BE MORE CAREFUL
WELL...
TAKE CARE
...AND CAUGHT UP IN THIS GREAT VORTEX OF PEOPLE, I CAN'T EVEN GUESS.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN NEXT..
...BUT WHETHER THE OCCURRENCES ARE GOOD OR BAD...
...THAT MOMENT IS DESCRIBED IN MINUTE DETAIL...
...AS IF THAT WAS THE CAREFULLY PLANNED OUTCOME ALL ALONG.
I WATCH THE COGWHEELS EVERY DAY.

HE'S LIMP!
CATCH!!

WAA!

..THEN THE DANGERS OF THIS WORLD..

IF THEY CHERISH EACH OTHER THIS MUCH..

...MUST BE VERY HARD TO COPE WITH.

I'll learn about societal customs and then brag about it.
AS LONG AS I'M HERE, I'LL TRY EARTH FOOD.
I WONDER IF THAT LITTLE BOY IS ALL RIGHT NOW..
ARE YOU READY TO ORDER?
HUH?
NOT AT ALL!
THANK YOU AGAIN FOR SAVING ME BEFORE.
BOW
AH!

7

Cogwheels

"The inspiration for The Cogwheels" began with a letter sent to me by an acquaintance that had a stamp with a picture of a cogwheel on it. It was cute and a little retro and at the bottom of the stamp it explained that it was commemorating the 100th anniversary of the organization of patent attorneys. Since patent attorneys do things with patent applications, I suppose the cogwheel was meant to symbolize inventions...Without that fine-worded explanation, I would've assumed it was to commemorate something more machine-related. (Not really knowing what a patent attorney does, I just pulled out my dictionary.)

See you at the end of this volume.

Part-time job
SO YOU WERE ON YOUR WAY HERE THEN?
THAT'S RIGHT
WHO'D HAVE GUESSED THAT WE'D MEET AGAIN HERE?
SO WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE?
Hmm..
UM, THAT'S JUST WHAT I WAS TRYING TO FIGURE OUT..
Hmm..
I'M NOT SURE.. I HAVEN'T HAD ANY OF THIS FOOD BEFORE..
EH?
OUR MENU REALLY ISN'T THAT EXOTIC
BUT IT'S STILL FROM ANOTHER COUNTRY
HUH? AREN'T YOU JAPANESE? I JUST ASSUMED...
NO, I'M NOT JAPANESE...
But come to think of it, I suppose I can see a difference...
Not human either...
I SEE .
Um, there's something called "pie", which is pretty good...
Uh-huh...
SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING.
KA-CHA

HUH... THIS IS SPAGHETTI ..
EXACTLY WHAT COUNTRY ARE YOU FROM?
You speak Japanese so fluently.
STARE
HERE'S THE BILL.
IF YOU HAVE ANY TROUBLE UNDERSTANDING IT, JUST CALL ME OVER
AH...
YOUR WATCH IS STOPPED.
EH?
I CAN FIX IT FOR YOU IF YOU'D LIKE.
YOU CAN FIX WATCHES ON THE SPOT?
WOULD YOU BE A WATCHMAKER BY ANY CHANCE?
NO...
Leave it to me.
: Cogwheels..?
BUT I MAKE A LIVING WORKING WITH COGWHEELS, SO DON'T WORRY.
AH... YOU'RE RIGHT.

Hmm..
ISN'T THIS LOOSE ON YOUR WRIST?
CLIK..
...
YOU NEED TO WORK OUT A LITTLE BIT.
On break
I CAN FIX THAT, TOO.
GIVE ME YOUR HAND
YES
IT WAS A GIFT ACTUALLY
HERE
WHO IS THIS GUY..?
SIGH
THERE ARE SO MANY DANGERS IN THIS WORLD JUST THINKING ABOUT THEM MAKES ME NERVOUS.
I keep remembering that baby
WITH A SKINNY ARM LIKE THAT, IT WOULDN'T SURPRISE ME IF IT BROKE IF YOU GOT IT CAUGHT IN AN AUTOMATIC DOOR
HAH...?
How can I put this?
YOU'RE A...
...BORN WORRIER, AREN'T YOU?
Ahhh..

AND YET, AT THE SAME TIME..
FINISHED.
...HOW IS IT THAT THEY CAN TAKE THINGS SO EASILY?
THANK YOU.
AH!
SIR?!
WAIT...
IN THIS WORLD OF COUNTLESS UNCERTAINTIES, THEY FEEL COMPELLED TO PRAY TO SOMETHING TO KEEP THEM SAFE.
...OF THESE FRAGILE HUMANS.
...RECORDING THE LIVES..
THE SPINNING COGWHEELS GO ONE RIGHT AFT THE OTHER
NOT MUCH
Smoothly
. OH.
DON'T YOU WORRY?

KRASSSH
DON'T MOVE!!
BAM

SEE? CALAMITIES COME RIGHT OUT OF THE BLUE, JUST LIKE THIS.
EVERYONE DUCK!!!
WHERE'S THE WAY!?
HOW!
OPEN THE DOOR!!
OR IS IT THAT I'M HAVING A TERRIBLE RUN OF BAD LUCK...? I DON'T KNOW, SINCE THIS IS MY FIRST TIME HERE...
WHAT SHOULD I DO?
I SUPPOSE IF THEY INTEND TO INFLICT INJURY ON SOMEONE, I'D BETTER TAKE ACTION.
I'm really not supposed to interfere at all...
WHEEE-OOO
WHEEE-OOO

WHEEE-OOO
I THINK WE'D BETTER JUST GET OUTTA HERE!
TCH! ANYWAY, THROW ALL THE DAMN MONEY FROM THE CASHBOX INTO HERE!!
SHUT UP! THE COPS ARE STILL BLOCKS AWAY!
HURRY UP!!
WHEEE-OOO
POLICE CAR SIRENS..
SOMEONE PROBABLY REPORTED THE WARNING SHOT
WHEEE-OOO
WHEEE-OOO
WHEEE-OOO
HURRY UP, POLICE!!
WHEEE-OOO
YOU WANNA DIE TODAY?!
MOVE FASTER!!
WHEEE-OOO
SWISH
WHEEE-OOO
ALL RIGHT!
HEH! WHAT'D I SAY?!
WHEEE-OOO
WE CAN JUST ABOUT STROLL OUTTA..
EH?
WHEEE-OOO

DAMMIT!
TA TA TA TA TA TA
WHEEE-OOO
SKREEE
POLICE
...HERE ALREADY?!
WE CAN'T GO OUT THE FRONT!
HEAD FOR THE BACK!!
A SQUAD CAR MUST'VE BEEN IN THE AREA WHEN THE CALL CAME IN...
WHEEE-OOO
SKREEE
WHEEE-OOO
WHEEE-OOO
WHEEE-OOO

WHEEEEOOO
...IS NO GOOD EITHER.
There's no reason to stop in front of this table...
THE BACK WAY...
WHEEEEOOO
NOW!
GO! GO! GO!
SLAM
WAAA
WAAA
EMPTY...
TA TA TA TA TA TA
TELL ME, HUH?!
WHAT'RE WE GONNA DO?!
WHEEE-OOO
WE MESSED UP! I WON'T SHUT UP!
THEY'RE GONNA CATCH US, MAN! WHAT'RE WE GONNA DO?!
WHEEE-OOO
THIS IS WHY I SAID WE SHOULDA RUN...
...SOON AS WE HEARD THE FIRST SIREN!
SHUT IT!
Pursued
WHEEE...

ALL THE OTHER CUSTOMERS RAN FOR IT..
.. BUT YOU COULDN'T, HUH, NOT WITH US STANDIN' RIGHT IN FRONT OF YOU?!
YOU MUSTA DRAWN THE SHORT STRAW TODAY, SO DON'T EVEN THINK ABOUT MESSIN' WITH US!
ARE WE YOUR HOSTAGES?
THAT'S POINT-LESS...
KRAK
...!!
FWISH
!
WE'RE IN A TERRIBLE SITUATION..
IT'S NOT MY FAULT THEY DIDN'T GET AWAY WHEN THEY HAD THE CHANCE!

YOU KNOW, YOU DON'T HAVE ANY LUCK.
YOU RESCUED ME IN THE MORNING..
..THEN SAT AT MY TABLE WHILE I FIXED YOUR WATCH..
..AND BECAUSE OF THAT, ENDED UP A HOSTAGE
EVEN THOUGH EVERYONE ELSE GOT TO ESCAPE..
I'M SORRY FOR TALKING TO YOU THAT MUCH
WELL, MY LUCK'S NO WORSE THAN YOURS
IT DIDN'T HELP US THAT THE PATROL CARS ARRIVED HERE FASTER THAN EXPECTED..
.. AND COVERED THE BACK ENTRANCE, TOO..
AMAZING...
WHEN I THINK OF HOW MANY COGWHEELS THIS IS GOING TO TAKE TO EXPLAIN...
NUTTER NUTTER
I'M SCARED..
AH! SO YOU DO GET SCARED...
OF COURSE! WHAT ARE YOU, NUTS?!
BUT BEFORE, YOU SEEMED SO EASY-GOING..

WELL, SURE. IF I SPENT ALL DAY WORRYING ABOUT STUFF, IT'D RUIN MY HEALTH.
IT MUST BE TOUGH, BEING A WORRYWART LIKE YOURSELF.
...BUT IF YOU OVERTHINK THINGS ALL THE TIME, YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO HAVE A NORMAL LIFE.
JUST LIKE THERE'LL BE A PERSON WHO WALKS AWAY FROM A HOPELESS PLANE CRASH WITH JUST A FEW SCRATCHES.
...THERE'LL BE SOMEONE WHO DIES FROM SIMPLY FALLING DOWN.
YEAH, IT'S IMPORTANT TO WATCH OUT FOR YOURSELF...
...BUT THE WORLD DOESN'T CARE ABOUT THAT. STUFF HAPPENS, REGARDLESS.
COMPLAIN ALL YOU WANT, THE WORLD'S NOT LISTENING.
SO IN RESPONSE TO THAT INDIFFERENCE, I'M LIVING AT MY OWN PACE.

OF COURSE, MY WORDS RING SOMEWHAT HOLLOW, SAYING THEM AT A TIME LIKE THIS..
NO, THEY'RE NOT
THEY'RE NOT.
.. BECAUSE YOU'RE GOING TO GET HOME SAFELY.
. AND I'M GOING TO GET YOU THERE

BAM
HEY...
DO YOU THINK THE COPS WILL REALLY BARGAIN WITH US?
CLAM IT!
YOU BETTER SUCK IT UP AND PREPARE FOR THE WORST!!
W-WAIT!
AFTER ALL, ANY WAY YOU LOOK AT IT, IT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE...
HAH?!
WHAT THE HECK ARE YOU TALKIN' ABOUT?!
LET'S JUST GIVE UP..
THEY'RE GONNA CATCH US ANYWAY!
I'M TIRED OF YOU BEIN' A WIMP!!
THEY'RE NOT BRINGIN' ANY GET-AWAY CAR FOR US!
I SAID, SHUT YOUR MOUTH!!
WISH!
COME ON, GET REAL...
SWISH
PULL A GUN ON ME?! WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU?!
HEY, LEGGO...
YOU...
WAA!

BAM
...TO LET A GOOD GIRL LIKE THIS DIE.

?!
IF SHE DIES HERE, THERE'S SOMETHING FUNDAMENTALLY WRONG WITH THE SYSTEM.
NOT LIKE THIS...
NOT OVER SOME NONSENSE...
KACHANG
I JUST CAN'T GO ALONG WITH IT.
THIS IS A TOTAL BREACH OF THE RULES..
Eh?
THIS ASSEMBLAGE OF COGWHEELS...
...IS PATTERNED AFTER YOUR LIVES.
Eh?
ACHINK KLANK KATINK

KACHINK KLANK KATINK
LET'S SEE... IT STARTED ABOUT FIVE YEARS AGO...?
FOR EXAMPLE ...
...AHHH, HUH! YOU'RE BROTHERS...
GAZE
WHEN YOU BECAME ADDICTED TO GAMBLING...
I SEE.
NATURALLY, YOU INCURRED A SIZABLE DEBT.
QUIVER
NOW I'M SURE...
...YOU'VE NEVER HEARD OF THE COG-WHEELERS...
...BUT WE FAITHFULLY RECORD EVEN LIVES LIKE YOURS LIKE THIS.
KATANK KLINK KACHINK
...SEE, I KNOW EVERYTHING ABOUT YOU.
IT'S ALL RECORDED RIGHT HERE.
HANDLE THE MACHINERY ROUGHLY AND IT'LL HAVE AN EFFECT ON THE PRESENT
THESE PIECES GIVE FORM TO WHAT IS CALLED THE "PAST".
BUT THIS IS NO MERE MODEL
KACHINK KLANK KACHUK KATINK

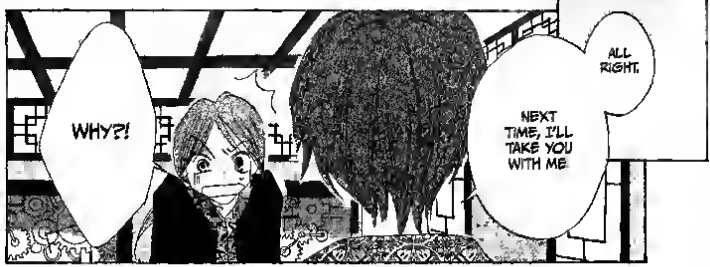
IT MADE ONE COGWHEEL FALL OFF.
TAP TAP
... THE BULLET HIT RIGHT HERE.
EXAMPLE. WHEN YOU FIRED THAT GUN A LITTLE WHILE AGO...
SHAKE SHAKE
DO YOU WANT TO KNOW WHAT PART THAT WAS?
AH!
...I'LL TELL YOU ANYWAY
THIS COG-WHEEL...
...IS THE OCCASION...
...YOUR PARENTS FIRST MET.

WELL...
...YOU BROUGHT IT ON YOURSELVES.
BUT..
...I COULDN'T LEAVE THINGS LIKE THAT...
..SO I PUT THE PART BACK ON.
OF COURSE!!
Pwah don't smoke so cold-heartedly!
PFFT
WHAT DID YOU EXPECT? THAT GIRL'S LIFE WAS AT STAKE
AND THAT WAS YOUR FAULT, KATORI!
YOU SHOULD NEVER HAVE FOLLOWED YOUR SPUR OF THE MOMENT WHIM AND GONE TO EARTH IN THE FIRST PLACE!
Think of how much work...
...I had to do up here while you were gone!
SO, HAVE YOU LEARNED YOUR LESSON?!

EXACTLY.
CHUCKLE
IT'S FUNNY I THOUGHT YOU WERE A STRANGE PERSON...
BUT IT TURNS OUT YOU'RE NOT A PERSON AT ALL.
—I'D BETTER START LIFTING SOME WEIGHTS, RIGHT?

THAT'S RIGHT
OH.
YOUR WATCH.

SOMETIMES MIRACLES DO HAPPEN, DON'T THEY?


WHY?!
NEXT TIME, I'LL TAKE YOU WITH ME.
ALL RIGHT.

IF SHE DOESN'T MIND THEM COMING FROM A CURIOUS COGWHEELER, I'LL MAKE MIRACLES HAPPEN.
I DON'T THINK I HAVE A CHOICE.
SHE HAD ME AT THE WORD "MIRACLES".
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT...?
AS MANY AS SHE NEEDS, EVERY TIME SHE CALLS ME.
YOU ASK ME, GOD IS TOO RELUCTANT WITH HIS MIRACLES.
He only's just woken, let's give him a minute of miracles!
DUSTLE DUSTLE
AHHH, NOW YOU'RE STARTING IN AGAIN WITH THE HERESY!

OH! THERE SHE IS.
I'M RIGHT, THOUGH, AREN'T I?
IF MINOR ARTISANS LIKE US CAN MAKE PEOPLE FEEL THANKFUL WITH OUR GOOD DEEDS, JUST THINK WHAT HE'S CAPABLE OF...
WELL, SURE, BUT...
SHE NOTICED US
OH..
GOOD!
I said!

SHE'S SMILING AGAIN TODAY.
I'LL START WITH THE PEOPLE AROUND HER...
THE WORLD IS MADE UP OF A LIMITLESS NUMBER OF INVISIBLE COGWHEELS.
TO YOU.

The Cogwheeler. The End.